Daily Report

Latin America

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Cuba

Afghan President Begins Official Visit

Meets Castro at Airport

FL0906151388 [Editorial Report] Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish at 1452 GMT on 9 June carries a live report from Havana's Jose Marti International Airport on the arrival of Afghan President Najibullah. According to the announcer, upon disembarking from an Ariana airliner, the Afghan president is met by Cuban President Fidel Castro. The announcer says: "Present here is the diplomatic corps accredited to Cuba as well as guests and other personalities." "Students and the people of Havana, on behalf of the Cuban people, have turned out to give Muhammad Najibullah, who has just arrived, a warm welcome," he adds. Live coverage of Najibullah's arrival ends with the playing of the Cuban and Afghan national anthems at the welcoming ceremony.

Holds Talks With Castro

FL1006020088 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 10 Jun 88

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the PCC and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, and Comrade Najibullah, general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and president of the Republic of Afghanistan, began official talks this afternoon. During the meeting, which took place in a friendly atmosphere, the commander in chief reiterated the solidarity of our peoples with the Afghan revolutionary process. Fidel also expressed (?understanding) of the national reconciliation policy being carried out by the leadership of Afghanistan, (?with) the support of the Geneva accords.

For his part, Najibullah gave detailed information on the situation of his country. He also referred to Afghanistan and the Soviet Union's strict compliance with the Geneva accords, in contrast to the repeated violations of the other signatory countries.

Pays Tribute to Jose Marti

FL0906203188 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1934 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] A few hours after arriving in our country, Afghan President Najibullah, accompanied by Jorge Risquet, placed a wreath of flowers at the foot of the Jose Marti monument in Revolution Square. The Afghan leader is heading a delegation from his country that is here at the invitation of Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, president of the Councils of State and Ministers.

Late this morning, President Najibullah and his delegation arrived on an Afghan airliner at the Jose Marti International Airport, where they were received by our highest party and government leaders and by citizens from the capital. The Afghan delegation came to Havana from the United Nations where President Najibullah spoke about the development of the national reconciliation process that Afghanistan is going through.

Importance of Visit Viewed

FL0906203088 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Station commentary]

[Text] Afghan President Najibullah has been in Cuba for a few hours now. We attach a great deal of importance to this visit and are very honored by it. Undoubtedly, this visit will put Cuban-Afghan relations in a new position and, at the same time, has a significance that is essential to deepen and expand even more the level of these relations.

Cuba and Afghanistan, although within the framework of their own peculiarities, have many points in common in their histories. The Cuban and Afghan peoples fought very hard in the past for their independence. The two struggled to forge their respective destinies. Cubans and Afghans have learned about, in a not yet concluded struggle, the brutal attacks of imperialism and its henchmen, its fallacies, miserable campaigns, beastiality, and crimes. The type of struggle has been different although its essence has been the same.

Today, Cuba supports the Afghan revolution and the efforts it is making to attempt to establish peace in the country. The Cuban and Afghan policies are in agreement on the various and important contemporary international problems.

It is within this context that President Najibullah's visit is taking place today. Upon his arrival, the Afghan leader himself said: We have always felt and highly valued the solidarity Cuba has shown toward the Afghan revolution. Surely, our country will continue strengthening this solidarity by struggling at international forums in favor of the noble objective that inspires the Afghan policies of peace, security, and social progress; struggling in accordance with its principles against the absurd and anachronistic objective of the world reactionaries of not recognizing the rights of people.

Rodriguez Returns From UN Disarmament Session

FL0906125188 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] Comrade Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the PCC Politburo and vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, returned last night from New York. Carlos Rafael headed the Cuban delegation to the third special UN General Assembly session on disarmament.

While in New York City, the vice president gave an address at the United Nations on behalf of Cuba. He also met with important personalities from several countries. Before departing yesterday for Cuba, Carlos Rafael met with Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid.

Ecuador's Pazzos on Solidarity With Panama

FL0906222088 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1948 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] General Frank Vargas Pazzos, retired, former Ecuadoran presidential candidate, has stated in Havana that Panama has honorable peoples and to leave them

alone at this time would be abandoning the Latin American cause. The situation of that country is tremendously difficult, and the position of certain Latin American governments toward it is embarrassing, Vargas Pazzos stated. He added that Panama is suffering from severe political and economic U.S. aggression.

Prior to arriving in Cuba, Pazzos Vargas visited the isthmian country. He headed a delegation from the Popular Patriotic Union to express, he said, firm solidarity. The former presidential candidate expressed support for world disarmament and for the actions that nonaligned countries are taking toward this goal.

With regard to the position that will be taken by the Popular Patriotic Union toward the future government of the Social-Democrat Rodrigo Borja, Vargas said that that organization will not carry out a senseless opposition.

Foreign Ministry Issues Statement on Cambodia

FL0906122788 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] The Cuban Foreign Ministry has issued the following statement on the situation in Cambodia:

Upon the conclusion of their meeting on 27 May, defense ministers of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and People's Republic of Kampuchea issued a joint communique announcing that Vietnam will withdraw 5,000 of its volunteer troops from Cambodia between June and December 1988.

It was also reported that the military high command of the Vietnamese volunteer forces in Cambodia will be withdrawn. The remaining volunteer troops will be subordinated to the general command of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Armed Forces until the volunteer forces are totally withdrawn in 1990 or earlier, if an agreement is reached. This is in reference to the seventh partial annual withdrawal of Vietnamese volunteer troops in the Khmer territory. The escalated withdrawal of these units began in 1982 and it is estimated that Vietnam will withdraw approximately 750,000 troops in 1988.

The Cuban Foreign Ministry salutes this new initiative by the governments of Hanoi and Phnom Penh which shows that the two countries are willing to contribute to a political solution to the Cambodian problem and that they favor developing appropriate conditions to increase the talks between Chairman Hun Sen and Prince Sihanouk. At the same time, they are attempting to eliminate tension and are working toward reestablishing peace and security in Southeast Asia.

New SWAPO Military Offensive in Namibia Noted

FL0906141288 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] The South-West African People's Organization [SWAPO] has begun another military offensive in northern Namibia to prevent the movement of new South African units to southwestern Angola. NAMPA [NAMIBIA PRESS AGENCY] has reported that Pretoria may try to send troop reinforcements because of the defeats experienced over the past few months. According to a military spokesmen, South Africa has lost more than 250 troops and a great deal of equipment during fighting with combined Angolan-Cuban forces and the SWAPO.

Raul Castro Discusses Turquino Plan

FL0906184188 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Speakers identified by caption with the exception of FAR Minister Raul Castro]

[Text] The "35th Anniversary of the Moncada Barracks Assault" maneuvers continue in the eastern provinces with the presence of Army General Raul Castro, second secretary of the PCC Central Committee and FAR minister.

We bring you a summary of the 3d day of the exercise by our reporter Dalia Reyes.

[Begin recording] [Reyes] The current state and goals of the Turquino Plan to increase the socioeconomic level of the mountain areas was the main topic of the 3d day of the maneuvers. The results of this plan were explained early this morning. During the course of the event held in the Sabaneta zone, Army Gen Raul Castro referred to the importance of increasing the influence of political-ideological work with the people in the mountain areas and with members of the EJT [Technical Youth Brigades]. He added that the Sabanete experience will be extended to other provinces. After the revolution, he said, we worked for the development of the mountain areas, but this needed to be more systematic and integral.

The visitors were able to observe how the EJT soldiers participate in agricultural tasks and prepare to defend the mountain areas.

[Ulises Rosales del Toro, chief of the FAR General Staff] We congratulate you and, on behalf of our party and government leaders, we express our confidence that you will know how to defend these mountains to the last drop of blood. Long live the commander in chief! [Crowd shouts: "Viva!"] Long live the FAR minister! [Crowd shouts: "Viva!"]. Long live the PCC! [Crowd shouts: "Viva!] Fatherland or death! [Crowd shouts: "We will win!"]

[Reyes] The agro-forestry mountain community, Jagueyon, is proof of what has already been achieved by the Turquino Plan. It is also a view of the future of our mountains. It is proof of the most beautiful pages of Cuban history. Apartment buildings, video halls, as well as a child care center, a primary school, a family doctor house, and cultural center are among the installations available to the people of Jagueyon to improve the living conditions of this zone.

The visitors later toured areas that demonstrate the work done for the socioeconomic development of the area.

[Raul Castro] I think we can congratulate all who have worked on this. [applause]

[Reyes] The high point of the 3d day of the maneuvers was a meeting with the residents of the Caimanera Municipality, who were celebrating the fulfillment of their defense tasks.

[Pioneer] The banner will now officially be presented by Army Gen Raul Castro Ruz to Caimanera, accrediting the municipality ready for the defense, second stage. [applause]

[Colonel Arnaldo Tamayo Mendez] In this event in which Caimanera has been declared the first municipality in the country ready for the defense, second stage, we have demonstrated that production and defense is a work ethic and a basic concept for our people. We love peace but imperialist aggression has forced us to be ready to defend ourselves. We are so prepared for the defense of the fatherland that it will be very difficult for enemies to attack us. Thus we can avoid war—which is the same as winning the war. This is what we have been taught by our beloved leaders, Raul and Fidel. [applause].

[Castro] We are very moved and are grateful to the heroic people, this small heroic town—it is a small but gigantic—and its border brigade. [applause] On behalf of those here, the PCC Central Committee, Fidel, and the rest of the Cuban people, we embrace you all. Long live the heroic people of Caimanera! [Crowd shouts: "Viva!"] Long live its border brigade! [Crowd shouts: "Viva!"] Fatherland or death! [Crowd shouts: "We will win!"] [end recording]

Flood-Damaged Ciego de Avila Railroad Repaired

FL0906020688 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] The recent weather conditions, which resulted in heavy rains in the central provinces, have caused serious damage to transportation. Our correspondent from Ciego de Avila reports to us on the progress of the repair work.

The railroad repair work ended today, Wednesday, on the Ciego de Avila main stretch between Quezada and Gaspar, thereby eliminating the obstruction that had cut off the national railroad. As of this morning, trains between Camaguey and Ciego de Avila were already running, although the trip must still be made with caution. Efforts are now being made to restore, within the next few hours, the stretch between Jucaro and Moron and Moron to Esmeralda.

At the same time, an emergency plan for hygienic-sanitary measures has been implemented today in this province. This is to reduce to a large extent the possible illnesses which could arise as a result of the floods such as outbreaks of diarrhea, typhoid, hepatitis, leptospirosis, and malaria. Health workers in Ciego de Avila are applying these measures quickly and in an organized manner. At the time of this report no outbreaks of an epidemic had been reported.

Dominican Republic

City Unable To Meet Wage Hike Adjustment

FL0906161188 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1027 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] Santiago—The Santiago mayor's office has laid off approximately 150 workers from City Hall because they say the institution does not have the funds to cover the wage adjustment passed by the Executive Branch. The suspension of the town council workers affects several employees who have 28 to 30 years of service in different departments. The layoffs were made by Mayor Frank Munoz Gil (?after) municipal workers ended a 5-day strike demanding wage increases.

Dominican Liberation Party, PLD, representatives immediately condemned the layoff of more than 150 municipal employees. The PLD representatives said this is a gross measure which demonstrates an irresponsible attitude that will not help resolve the situation created by the demands of town council personnel. Laying off employees and applying repressive measures will not resolve the alleged problem of funding to comply with the salary adjustment decree, they said.

During the last session of the Santiago City Hall meeting, Mayor Munoz Gil still refused to rehire the workers. More than 1,500 municipal workers continue to demand that authorities comply with the presidential decree calling for a minimum wage of 400 pesos a month in the private administration sector.

Munoz Gil warned that an atmosphere of discontent is growing in the Santiago Town Council and that this will slow down work at City Hall.

Victoria Inmates Declare Hunger Strike

FL0906153388 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1022 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Report by Pedro Alberto Hernandez]

[Text] Victoria Penitentiary inmates announced they will begin a hunger strike today to demand the transfer of the police commander assigned there. The prisoners are also demanding the intervention of the archbishop of Santo Domingo, Msgr (Horacio Lopez Rodriguez), to prevent any unfortunate incidents. The prisoners decided to go on a hunger strike even though police and judicial authorities are conducting an investigation to determine the reasons for Sunday's uprising in which two inmates were killed and nine others were injured. The committee [words indistinct] following Sunday's tragedy will investigate approximately 30 police agents, including [words indistinct].

De la Madrid Addresses UN Disarmament Session

PA0906123488 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in Spanish 1955 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Report on speech by President Miguel de la Madrid at the Third UN General Assembly Special Session on Disarmament in New York on 8 June—passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] Addressing the Third UN General Assembly Special Session on Disarmament, Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid urged all countries to assume their responsibility in view of the danger that the human race might be annihilated as a result of the excessive arms buildup. From the world's most important political and diplomatic rostrum, the Mexican president said disarmament is an essential component of international stability, peace, and security:

"True stability, long-term peace among nations, and the certainty that each nation will be able to exercise its rights without undermining the legitimate rights of others also depend on a reduction of the abysmal gap between rich and poor countries. It is unacceptable that the harshest effects of the crisis fall almost exclusively on the developing countries."

President Miguel de la Madrid proposed that the UN special session on disarmament examine the points that Mexico considers to be fundamental to the achievement of peace: prohibiting nuclear testing; establishing a multilateral system of verification within the UN framework; preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons; encouraging the establishment of nuclear-free zones; successfully completing international negotiations to prohibit the production, storage, transportation, and use of chemical weapons; and linking disarmament to development.

The president also said powerful countries should get together and negotiate for economic reasons. He noted that, at last, there seems to be a realization of the fact that it is not possible to build sophisticated weapons while at the same time maintaining the investments required by the technological revolution. De la Madrid added that at the U.S.-Soviet summit, a constructive spirit, which seemed to have declined a short time ago, reemerged:

"Perhaps the expectations that had been raised by the new meeting between the U.S. and Soviet leaders were not completely fulfilled. We all wished for greater progress in the reduction and limitation of offensive nuclear weapons and nuclear testing. We cannot ignore the fact, however, that the final communique is permeated with expressions by both sides that they intend to increase points of agreement and reduce disagreement."

The Mexican president said we cannot and should not renounce our right to build a peaceful world and to continue struggling tirelessly for the lives and prosperity of all peoples.

President de la Madrid addressed the heads of state and government of 159 countries, including Portuguese President Mario Soares and Costa Rican President Oscar Arias, who spoke before him. Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze also attended the session. President Miguel de la Madred later attended a luncheon hosted by UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar for the heads of state attending the disarmament session. The Mexican president will meet this afternoon with delegations from the Latin American and Caribbean countries represented at the Assembly.

Meets With Arias, Sarney

PA0906193388 Mexico City XEW Television Network in Spanish 1300 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Report by Roberto Ruiz]

[Text] The presence of Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid at the United Nations led to a kind of Latin American minisummit. De la Madrid had the opportunity to talk with his colleagues Costa Rican President Oscar Arias and Brazilian President Jose Sarney.

In addition, Mexican Foreign Minister Bernardo Sepulveda met with his colleagues, Uruguayan Foreign Minister Luis Barrios, Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorge Ritter, and Costa Rican Foreign Minister Rodrigo Madrigal Nieto. One of the topics dominating some of the talks involved ways to find a solution to the Panamanian problem. The participating diplomats said that progress is being made.

Ends U.S. Visit

PA1006025388 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in Spanish 1955 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Report by Humberto Mares Navarro from New York]

[Excerpt] Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid ended his official visit to New York with a series of meetings with officials, heads of state, and the head of the IDB.

The Mexican president talked with IDB President Dr Enrique Iglesias on the Latin American economy, the foreign debt, and, specifically, on the way Mexico has faced its economic problems. At the end of the meeting, Dr Enrique Iglesias said that Mexico's success in its fight against inflation, managing foreign affairs, and beginning a series of structural reforms ensures that Mexico has the bases for greater economic growth.

Enrique Iglesias added that the IDB plays a fundamental role in the economic recovery of all Latin American countries. Iglesias pointed out that the IDB is a true example for all Latin American countries on the road to their development. [passage omitted]

El Salvador

Foreign Minister Assesses Trip to Japan

PA0906150788 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Excerpts] Salvadoran Foreign Minister Ricardo Acevedo Peralta today talked about the results of the first official visit by a Salvadoran foreign minister to Japan. He described the visit as a very important step in the history of El Salvador's bilateral relations with a country regarded as being powerful and very willing to help underdeveloped nations. Acevedo Peralta said that during his trip to Japan, 25-30 May, he achieved specific results. [passage omitted]

[Begin recording] My trip to Japan yielded specific results: First, the garbage collection project was approved. This entails a donation of 40 garbage trucks to the Salvadoran Government. This project totals $4 million.

Second, a donation of approximately $3 million to provide assistance to agricultural production was approved. This donation basically consists of fertilizers that will be directly donated to the Salvadoran Government to be distributed at a later time.

Third, [26-second station break] a project to rebuild and repair housing in San Salvador was approved. This project is a reminder of the problems caused by the earthquake. Japan pledged to make donations to repair the houses. It has already given part of those donations in machinery, especially for the removal of debris. Now, it will give a $4-million donation to repair the road networks damaged by the earthquake.

A fourth project was approved for $300,000. Although the amount is small, it is important because it deals with the development and promotion of sports and culture in El Salvador. This donation will be channeled through the Ministry of Culture and Communications. [passage omitted]

The main political result was a study by the Japanese Government to take the last steps in establishing diplomatic relations. This means appointing a resident ambassador in El Salvador. [end recording]

PCN Nominates Presidential Candidate

PA0906123588 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 8 Jun 88 p 3

[Excerpts] Hugo Roberto Carrillo Corleto, secretary general of the National Conciliation Party (PCN), has announced that Rafael Moran Castaneda has been nominated PCN presidential candidate. [passage omitted]

Carrillo Corleto added: Our candidate for the Presidency is a capable man, but behind him will be a team of men and women of the PCN, working hard to demonstrate to the people that we are the alternative El Salvador needs to overcome the crisis it has been confronted with as a result of extremist positions. [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, Moran Castaneda said: "As a member of the PCN, I am committed now more than ever to working for the solutions our fatherland urgently needs, without demagoguery or false promises; as a member of the PCN, I am sure the people know we are capable of working for their benefit."

Nicaragua

Peace Talks With Contras End Without Agreement

H. Ortega Makes Statement

PA0906165888 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1455 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Statement by Defense Minister General Humberto Ortega, head of the government delegation to the peace negotiations with the Nicaraguan Resistance, to local and foreign newsmen at the Jose Dolores Estrada press room of Las Mercedes Hotel in Managua—live]

[Text] In a few minutes we will begin today's talks. Before starting today's round of negotiations, we would like to briefly meet with the local and foreign press, and address our people as well, of course.

We must state that yesterday we discussed all aspects of the overall government proposal for the implementation of the Sapoa agreement, which has been presented at the various top-level meetings for a permanent cease-fire. The overall government proposal has been the basic document for the discussion and negotiations concerning a permanent cease-fire.

As you all know, at the previous meeting the counterrevolution presented what they described as an overall proposal. We rejected it from the start, because as a whole that proposal rejects the Sapoa agreement and therefore intends to [word indistinct] Sapoa.

That proposal, or several points of it, however, have been taken into account at the meetings and negotiations, although the overall 32-point proposal of the Nicaraguan Government has been the basic document at those meetings.

During the current top-level round of negotiations, and more precisely since the morning of [date indistinct], we discussed point No 27 of the overall proposal for the implementation of the Sapoa agreement. This point covers disarmament and the incorporation of the counterrevolutionary forces into the country's normal life. That way they would be able to join the country's social and political life.

The issue of disarmament was duly discussed at that meeting, and from that point we started discussing other issues dealing with other aspects agreed on in the Sapoa

agreement, such as point No 26, which involves the national dialogue. Everyone is aware that Nicaragua has expanded the national dialogue and has even fulfilled proposals and concerns of the counterrevolution in several points discussed at the national dialogue, this dialogue being point No 26 of the government proposal.

Yesterday, we also discussed amnesty, which from here to Sapoa [words indistinct] must be gradual and basically linked to and dependent on the disarming of the counterrevolutionary forces. Amnesty and disarmament must be simultaneous. In other words, amnesty is the culmination of the incorporation of the counterrevolutionary forces into the country's civilian life. Amnesty culminates when the counterrevolutionary forces surrender the last rifle remaining in the country, in accordance with the country's valid Constitution. The amnesty culminates when they join our country's civic life to strengthen the country's institutional life and the Nicaraguan democratic process and leave war behind. Our democratic process has not been further strengthened because of the U.S. aggression against our country.

That is what happened yesterday. As you know, the counterrevolution has tried as hard as possible to avoid discussing the issue of disarmament. We must point out that at this stage, the most obstinate U.S. positions are still clearly present. The U.S. Administration is determined to prevent any agreement. With that position they intend to blame Nicaragua if no agreements are reached today.

That position is clearly expressed both in the extremist positions they displayed yesterday, through which at some point in the discussion they practically...[changes thought] I had to clarify for them that there were not two governments having a dialogue at that meeting; two governments in conflict were not discussing problems at that meeting. I had to tell them that at that meeting, the Nicaraguan Government was discussing problems with a rebellious, armed, illegal force. We had to remind them that within the framework of Esquipulas II, the Nicaraguan Government committed itself to promoting a cease-fire, attaining an agreement like the Sapoa agreement, and seeking the incorporation of rebel forces into the country's life, thus giving them an opportunity and ending the war.

We had to stress this to those individuals, because they made some statements that practically described themselves as a government dealing with another government. We clearly told them that we are the government and they are a rebel force that is not recognized by the international community, unlike the Nicaraguan Government, which is recognized by the international community. That was very clearly stated; otherwise, we could not have continued the talks.

The extremist positions, however, still exist. We know that today—and according to the type of campaign developed by the U.S. Administration abroad— a whole plan has been developed to make the Nicaraguan Government appear as intransigent and guilty, in case a document for a permanent cease-fire is not signed today.

We believe that the meetings have been valuable and important, even though a tendency to obstruct and boycott the peace process still prevails, both at the meeting and elsewhere. We are a responsible government, so we continue to exert ourselves to the utmost so we can attain an agreement today for a definitive cease-fire. If those stubborn and provocative positions preclude an overall agreement, we might at least attain various basic, minimal, elemental, and civilized agreements that will allow us to continue the dialogue and extend the cease-fire so there will be no more bloodshed such as existed prior to the cease-fire agreement reached in Sapoa. That is the minimal, basic, and civilized thing that two contending forces could agree to do.

I pointed out yesterday that we should be most willing to continue the talks and continue to seek a negotiation if things become too tense, if the danger increases to a maximum; we should also try to be more patient even if we run out of patience. We cannot give up the minimal thing that two contending forces can achieve, meaning that we must continue with the dialogue. We should at least guarantee that the demands... [changes thought] at least agree to cease offensive military operations, which guarantees that there will be no more bloodshed among our peasants—who suffer the most in these situations— and our people in general, who also suffer the consequences.

That is the general situation right now. This morning, we will present them with a timetable for the permanent cease-fire. We will give you a photocopy of this timetable later because we are still working on it. The timetable includes the Nicaraguan Government's overall proposal for a definitive cease-fire. You may recall that the Sapoa agreement is a mandate to attain a definitive cease-fire. Nicaragua presented an overall proposal to implement the Sapoa agreement during the 17 April negotiations. There is also the Esquipulas agreement, which is a mandate for the five Central American governments to fulfill certain obligations.

In Nicaragua's case, the Esquipulas agreement made it possible to achieve the Sapoa agreement. On 17 April, Nicaragua presented an overall proposal to implement the Sapoa agreement, meaning a proposal to attain a definitive cease-fire. Today [abrupt break in reception]

Talks in 'Serious Danger'

PA1006040588 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0247 GMT 10 Jun 88

[Text] Managua, 9 Jun (ACAN-EFE)—General Humberto Ortega stressed today that "by refusing to sign anything and by saying no to everything," the armed resistance "committed suicide, performed hara-kiri" during the fourth round of talks.

At a news conference held in this capital, Ortega, the Nicaraguan Government's chief negotiator, warned that "peace will be closer than ever to the Nicaraguan people, because even if it was not achieved at the negotiating table, it will be achieved more quickly on the battlefield."

"From now on, the days of the Nicaraguan Resistance [RN] are numbered," Ortega said.

The fourth round of talks, which lasted 3 days, ended today in complete failure, because it was impossible for Gen Ortega to convince the rebel leaders to agree on holding another meeting.

Enrique Bermudez, commander of the rebel forces, said that in the last hours of the negotiations, Gen Ortega "used a harsh tone" when he saw the contras' reluctance to sign anything.

Bermudez said: "Gen Ortega warned members of the contra leadership that there will be an all-out war and that it will involve everyone, not only the peasants."

He [Bermudez] added that "Ortega's remarks indicate that any member of the RN leadership is considered to be involved in the armed struggle and that anything can happen to him."

According to Bermudez, who spoke minutes before the rebel leaders left the country, "this harsh tone does not help to create a favorable climate for negotiations."

Gen Ortega described the contra leadership members as "liars, hesitant individuals, boycotters, and irrational men who obey the Reagan administration's most recalcitrant sector."

According to the Sandinist general, during the talks, the "contra" leaders said that they were willing to resume negotiations in the future, "but under different conditions."

The military chief said that the contras did not mention this to the press. However, they did say that the Sapoa process, which began on 23 March, had ended with this fourth round of talks.

Ortega said that Bermudez had refused to set a date for the release of the 66 Sandinists kidnapped by the "contras." In view of this, Ortega told Bermudez: "You cannot leave Managua without telling us when you are going to release those kidnapped people."

According to Ortega, Bermudez promised to release the 66 "Sandinist soldiers who are being held prisoner by the RN on 19 June. However, Bermudez did not say where they would be released."

Nevertheless, Gen Ortega said that he was beginning to have doubts about this [the release of the kidnapped Sandinist soldiers], because the RN did not inform the press of the promise they made in front of the witnesses, Ambassador Joao Clemente Baena Soares and Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo.

The RN also refused to promise that it would respect the extension of the cease-fire through 30 June, which had been suggested by the Sandinists.

However, the RN leadership did say that their troops would not initiate offensive actions, warning that if they are attacked, they will defend themselves.

The Sandinists confirmed that they will continue to respect the cease-fire through 30 June.

The witnesses asked the parties in conflict whether the Verification Commission was still in effect. The Sandinists told them that it was.

According to Gen Ortega, the RN also agreed that the Verification Commission was still in effect; however, they did not mention this to the press.

Ortega said that the negotiations are in serious danger and that the Nicaraguan Government will meet shortly with its high-ranking officials to decide what should be done about this.

H. Ortega Gives News Conference

PA1006060988 Managua International Service in Spanish 0414 GMT 10 Jun 88

[News conference with Defense Minister General Humberto Ortega by unidentified reporters following the negotiations with the Nicaraguan Resistance in Managua on 9 June—recorded]

[Text] [Ortega] We pointed out in the morning that everything indicated an attitude against the negotiations and against peace existed among the counterrevolution's leaders. This trend clearly (?prevailed) with Somozist Colonel Bermudez during the afternoon meeting. He tried to defend his most recent sabotage proposal and ended his remarks by saying that Sapoa and this meeting had ended and that he did not have anything else to say. In addition, [Nicaraguan Resistance leader] Cesar—in a manner characteristically ambiguous—tried to cover up Bermudez' position that the Sapoa chapter was now closed.

This is why it is not strange that in the communique they read here, but which they did not deliver to you, they said that this was the last round of the Sapoa talks. They also mentioned their willingness to negotiate, but only in a general way. They did not say, either at the meeting this afternoon or here before you, that they believed the Sapoa negotiating process would continue. Cesar did not say this clearly here. I said earlier that these people were liars, and now they again have shown that they lie.

They said earlier that they could not continue to meet because Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo had to travel to Canada, but this was a lie. On that occasion, they made a commitment before the witnesses, both Cardinal Obando y Bravo and Ambassador Baena Soares, in view of the strong demand we made on behalf of our people and government regarding the problem of the kidnapped citizens. They admitted having what they describe as prisoners. So we demanded the release of at least those 66 prisoners and insisted that the contras should not leave the meeting before clearly promising the release of these prisoners. Particularly you, Mr Bermudez, cannot leave without confirming the date for their release. Bermudez said before the witnesses that the 66 kidnapped citizens would be released on 19 June; that is to say, within 10 days.

He and the entire directorate committed themselves to that position in front of witnesses, but they did not express that decision here. They practically did not want to reach an agreement on anything, just like the last time. We were obliged to ask them: Well, do you agree with this or the other thing? We are going to explain this. And when we turned to the subject of the kidnapped people, when we demanded this discussion, after the agreements that had been reached in front of the witnesses, they came here and did not announce what they agreed upon and what they promised in front of the witnesses: to release those 66 captives. This leads us to doubt from the outset that they will keep that promise.

In addition, we said to them, in the name of the people, that while it is true the negotiation has entered... [changes thought] To the Nicaraguan Government, their positions, which are the positions held by the recalcitrant sectors of the U.S. Administration, are irrational. Despite the fact that the negotiating process is at a critical stage, we insisted that Sapoa is still valid. It must continue to be valid, and the Verification Commission must continue to exist. If the process is at a critical stage, this is when we must most clearly express and establish our determination to continue negotiating so that the explosion at the negotiating table does not extend to the battlefield and continue the Nicaraguan people's suffering. We told them that we should at least agree... [changes thought] They should clearly commit themselves to halting offensive military operations until a new meeting is held.

They also said that they are willing to meet again under different circumstances. At least they said that, because I asked in front of the witnesses: Are you willing to hold another meeting? Let us clearly agree that until that new meeting is held, it will be clearly established... [changes thought] You, Mr Bermudez, are a military man. You are well aware of what a military report is. The military gives clear orders. Military orders of another type should not be given. You can draft a clear communique ordering your forces to maintain a halt in offensive operations until a certain date, as the Nicaraguan Government has done.

They said that they would draft such a communique, and they have not done so. They have come here to talk ambiguously and to try to partially fulfill the promise that they made in the meeting in front of the witnesses. As a matter of fact, we foresaw this ambiguous, vacillating attitude of Bermudez, [corrects himself] or rather of Cesar. We took into consideration the clear, boycotting, warmongering attitude of the Somozist Colonel Bermudez, and having foreseen this, we proposed to the witnesses that they should record in writing this promise that they would halt offensive military operations. This was a precaution, right? Bermudez had already said that they, of course, would have to defend themselves if we attacked them. Of course, they are presenting this situation in an ambiguous manner so they can later say our Army attacked them and then go ahead and implement their warmongering policy, as they have already been doing systematically over the past few days, disrespecting the halt in offensive military operations.

This is what happened this afternoon. This was the situation. We gave the witnesses a record of all the points—we are going to give you a copy later—of all the points that we have been making in these days of negotiation with the contra leaders, so that there would be a record of what we proposed and they rejected.

There is a contradiction between what the contras have agreed to privately and what they said before they left today. This afternoon, Baena Soares asked on behalf of both witnesses—including, of course, Cardinal Obando y Bravo—if the Verification Commission would continue to exist. The contras, as ambiguous as ever, said yes. We reaffirmed our position that Sapoa continues to be in effect and, therefore, the Verification Commission continues to be in effect.

In the contra communique given to you today, however, they stated that this had been the last round of Sapoa talks. This means that as far as they are concerned, Sapoa has ended and, thus, the Verification Commission established by the Sapoa agreements does not exist for them any more. This position contradicts what they had agreed to privately in the meeting. Just a few minutes after agreeing that the Verification Commission continued to be in effect, they come here and say something else. Are these people liars or not?

We proposed that the Sapoa agreements continue to be in effect, that the Verification Commission continue to exist, that humanitarian aid be given to contra forces in the country, but not through U.S. foundations. You all know our position. [Words indistinct] and we will give you a report later on. Our report will be very clear in stating that these people continued with their position of saying "no" to everything.

Now, is peace dead? Or are the contras historically and strategically dead? With their attitude today, the contras have attempted to kill peace, but the only thing they achieved was to commit political suicide. Our people

will be able to ensure definite peace for our country in the coming days or months. They will do so because of their willingness to continue negotiations and to keep the Sapoa agreements alive, but also—as I said this morning—because they are willing to continue the struggle on the battlefields.

The attempt made by the U.S. Administration to kill peace by ordering their most recalcitrant representatives—such as Bermudez—to do so today will only result in the contras' future demise. Our people, who are optimists, will continue to struggle for peace, mainly by maintaining our willingness to negotiate. However, they will also firmly bear their rifles to repel the forces that do not respect the cease-fire in effect until 30 June, as we have publicly reported.

We will also continue to maintain contact with those members of the contra forces who, we are sure, continue to search for peace. There have been many meetings, hundreds of meetings, between these contras and our forces, each trying to reach an understanding; the results of these meetings can be assessed by noting the many contras who are turning themselves in. In this respect, we will also win the battle against the recalcitrant forces.

To summarize, we have reached this critical moment and, as usual, our people will continue to be prepared to face the U.S. Administration's provocations through their mercenary forces in the country as well as in the border areas — mainly with Honduras. We will continue to progress in our usual optimistic manner, defending peace through negotiations and in combat.

[Reporter] General, will you propose another meeting?

[Ortega] One of the points we presented and discussed with the witnesses was the need to agree on a new date to continue the negotiations with the contras within the Sapoa framework. However, the contras declined, refusing to agree on a new date. They said that they are willing to hold another meeting in the future, but they did not say if it would be within the Sapoa framework or when it would be held. I told them we would like to decide on a date now, immediately, and we would like it to be within the framework of the Sapoa agreements; they refused.

[Reporter] General, the contras say that they will send a report on the current situation to OAS Secretary General Joao Baena Soares and to His Eminence Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo. However, I must insist that this is not the right time for the government delegation to ask members of the Verification Commission to once and for all pass a judgment. Meanwhile, Cesar has denied that he maintained any contact whatsoever with you or with Major General Joaquin Cuadra. He said that contact was not established—not even in the hotel hallways.

[Ortega] Well, that demonstrates what I have said: Those who are hesitant tell more lies every day, and I do not know if [words indistinct]. He is a liar. He is afraid of Bermudez. That is why he was saying that; he is afraid.

[Reporter] General, [words indistinct].

[Ortega] Within the next few days, the government will carefully study this meeting and make a decision. I believe the moment for a serious decision is near.

[Reporter] General, you said the Resistance said they would release on 19 June those whom they had kidnapped. However, they did not say where they would be released.

[Ortega] We complained about this to them, because they keep putting it off. However, they said that the prisoners would be released in Guatemala.

[Reporter] General Ortega, I asked Alfredo Cesar and Bermudez about the meetings you held with Cesar. This is very interesting news, and I would like you to expand on the subject, because it seems to me that things are not turning out the way the contras would like. If separate meetings are being held, it shows that they are divided.

[Ortega] The fact is—as I have told you before—that their final document consisted of an ultimatum. They attempted to impose an ultimatum on peace with an extremist document which, upon examination, presented a series of points that directly countered Sapoa. We made an agreement in Sapoa, and now they want to change it. This is the gist of the issue, which we discussed this evening.

Cesar's attitude demonstrates how difficult it is to negotiate with contras who, for all practical purposes, are dead. Yesterday the contras committed hara-kiri. Peace did not die yesterday. The Nicaraguan people will be closer to peace now, because if it is not achieved at the negotiating table, it will be achieved very quickly on the battlefield. In an attempt to murder peace, the contras murdered themselves yesterday, and already their days are numbered. Where have Calderon and top negotiator Calero been since Sapoa? Where is Jaime Morales Carazo, chief negotiator? At present he is clearly expressing all the contradictions that exist within the contra ranks in a book he published in Mexico; he is exposing the contradictions.

We have already given them... [changes thought] Morales Carazo, who was the chief negotiator just a few months ago, says that Enrique Bermudez, the top military leader, initially acted in a very irresponsible and hasty manner. This tells us about their basic plans, what they had in mind, such as the zones or enclaves and the 60-day truce. Bermudez overreacted, pretending to be surprised when he was perfectly informed and agreed with the basic agreement. These are the same hands that support [contra leader] Sanchez, Aristides Sanchez. Everything points to this.

His subsequent actions—such as removing the commander and slandering other members of the Resistance—show a hitherto unsuspected propensity for totalitarianism and a total disregard for the principle of civilian rule.

And these are the democrats, those calling for civilian rule who want to come here to give the Nicaraguan people lessons in democracy when the truth is they do not have Tono, Fernando, Morales Carazo, Calero, Roberto (Urro), or Fernando Aguero any longer.

In fact, during this meeting I protested because they had brought someone with them who admitted to not even having read the Sapoa agreement. If this was so, why did they bring him?

I would say that with their attitude of giving ultimatums, and with their irrational document, what they wanted was to kill peace. We, however, feel that with this they have only hastened their own agony.

[Reporter] One question, General. When the directorate members left here, they said this had been the last round of Sapoa talks; however, in their communique, they have left an opening: to renew the political negotiations by civilized means. They did not, however, specify a date for the next round of talks. In your opinion, what are the conditions that must exist for future talks to progress?

[Ortega] The single most important thing for a renewal of the talks and the negotiations to put an end to war is logically that they stop fanning the flames of war. As long as they keep fanning the war and as long as they continue to disrespect the cease-fire, as they have been doing... [changes thought] If they continue behaving in this way, it will be that much harder to meet again. That was my reason for demanding that they commit themselves very clearly in a signed document to respect the cease-fire, but they refused to do this. We even told them that care must be taken not to continue to fuel the war. But many of them do not even consider the consequences of their actions because they live far away and they could not care less that peasants are getting killed.

The problem is that if they do not comply—and I doubt that they will— [words indistinct] endangering any possibility of meeting again.

[Reporter] How will this affect the possibility of additional U.S. aid for the contras?

[Ortega] I pointed out that this irresponsible action, this obviously irrational action of boycotting the talks, where the primitive attitude of the warmongering sectors prevailed over the possibility of rational thought which we saw in Cesar... [changes thought] That is why we met with him, because he kept saying that he would twist Bermudez' arm. He told us: Do not worry; we are going to twist his arm. And we saw at that time that he had a certain negotiating capacity that would allow us to reach an agreement. But when the primitive attitude prevailed over that tiny rational light we saw there, they thought they were going to kill peace and then blame the Nicaraguan Government. In fact, Calero has been in the United States for the past few days campaigning through some reactionary, conservative congressmen to bring this matter again to the fore. However, as I said before, the Americans are very practical people. By now it is more than obvious that the contras are a bankrupt enterprise that has proven impossible to maintain in times of peace, much less in times of war. No matter how much military aid they give the contras, it is going to be like a bottomless pit. The conclusion one reaches after 7 years of war is that the contras are strategically defeated.

In my opinion, it would be interventionist in the extreme and totally irrational to continue giving these people the unlawful military aid given in the past.

[Reporter] Is the government still willing to hold peaceful encounters between Sandinist forces and contra forces?

[Ortega] Yes, I have already said that. We maintain that position because we feel it is important for...

[Reporter, interrupting] I would like to know if the contras are finished, if they have committed political suicide, and if there is no longer a possibility of reaching an agreement, or if a very slim possibility remains. Is the U.S. Government currently the only other entity with which you would consider negotiating?

[Ortega] Our government has always said this type of dialogue or negotiation is of priority interest, and we feel our goal is to spare our people further bloodshed while this country struggles. It is true, you know, that the contras are finished from the military-strategic point of view and as a military-political option. However, on their deathbed, they can still cause much damage to the economy, especially to civilians, to our people who must spill their blood defending the sovereignty of the country.

[Reporter] Is the Sandinist government going to direct its efforts toward seeking a dialogue with the United States?

[Ortega] I believe that after all this, our government—President Ortega—will have to meet with the main government members to analyze this situation and to make the necessary decisions. I believe this is the most sensible road to take.

[Reporter] General, after this failure—definitely a failure because of the counterrevolutionaries' stance—what will happen domestically with the political opposition parties who have been receiving many special considerations? Will the government adopt a hardline attitude?

[Ortega] Let us not confuse things. We have a framework: the free exercise of political opposition. As the warmongering option starts fading out as a viable option,

civic and democratic methods will have to be strengthened. Right-wing opposition extremists who see the contras as their supermen, as their saviors, should really be worried. They will have to respect the framework and laws that in all countries have to be respected for the democratic exercise of X or Y political force.

[Reporter] Has the delegation that you head thought of asking the witnessess to list the points that have already been agreed upon—to summarize the agreed-upon points to see things more clearly and to make a conciliatory proposal on the points where there is hope? Have you thought of this possibility?

[Ortega] We are going to analyze the results, and most assuredly we are going to take different initiatives. We do not rule out analyzing the initiatives in the manner you just described.

[Reporter] General, were all these hours of talks and all these failed plans worth it for the Nicaraguan people, or was it all a great waste of time?

[Ortega] I do not think this has been a waste of time for our people. It has been a necessary investment for our people who are suffering the U.S. economic blockade, the financial siege, the aggression that forces us to funnel our main resources into defending our sovereignty and the revolution. Our people have invested in this negotiation. They have invested their hopes, their desire for peace. Logically this takes its toll. This investment was necessary to seek an end to the war. The war must be ended by using any necessary means—diplomatic, military, or through negotiations. This naturally has required a great effort by our people but a necessary one.

[Reporter] General Ortega, it is clear that the contras are waiting to see who becomes the next U.S. President, and that they, therefore, want to kill time. Would the Nicaraguan Government be willing to wait to continue negotiting if this is indeed the case? Anytime is good for negotiating. Your proposal has half the [contra] forces handing over their weapons and the other half keeping them. Then 1,800 or 2,000 contras are freed and all the former Somozist guards [words indistinct]. In addition, we know for a fact that some of the contra troops are in Honduras. So, in settling in these designated areas, the contras would be demonstrating a real poltical will to reach an agreement. However, would there not be a risk that people like Bermudez, even if they are in the minority, could insist on creating a big problem as a carryover from the present war? [sentence as heard]

ext] [Ortega] We felt that this could be a trick, so we decided to neutralize it with our proposal. We have asked the Verification Commission to find out how many contras are in the area. Contra propaganda had reported that there were 17,000 men in the area, but when they learned that the Verification Commission was going to count them, they lowered the number to 12,000 men. Now they are saying that there are only 8,000 men in the area. The problem is that they must be counted; men and weapons in those areas must be counted. Zones 1, 2, 3, and 4 are located at the border with Honduras. These are the most important areas, and they are located in our Regions 1 and 6. The other zones can be described as secondary zones. Once the contras in those regions have been evacuated, the problem will be resolved.

[Reporter] Would the Nicaraguan Government be willing to negotiate sometime in January if the contras decide to wait and see if another Republican moves into the White House and continues to offer them aid?

[Ortega] Nicaragua has always been willing to negotiate. We will wait and see whether they respect the agreement that establishes an end to all offensive military operations. Despite the current crisis, we are going to push for the Sapoa talks to continue. Our people have suffered enough already. We will try everything to avoid sending our people to fight and defeat them on the battleground. We will always keep our willingness to talk and negotiate open. Sapoa will always be open; as far as we are concerned, Sapoa is not dead. They are the ones who have tried to kill Sapoa. This is the way we see things.

[Reporter] Is there any chance that the Reagan administration will use the suspension of the talks as an excuse to militarily intervene in our country?

[Ortega] Historically speaking, one can expect anything from the United States. However, it they do this, it would be a very big political mistake. Our military doctrine calls for us to prepare constantly for defense; we are always prepared to reject and to defeat that type of threat. The truth is that as long as a definite agreement with the United States is not reached, that threat will always be present.

They have their forces in Honduras. They are always threatening, and they continue to support the mercenary forces. They would probably use the mercenary forces as a spearhead, a force to create a diversion for bigger plans using Honduras or their own forces. That is the truth. We have to continue confronting the contras politically and militarily and continue to prepare, as we always do, to fight an even greater aggression.

[Reporter] General, is it true that reequipped contra troops, loyal to Bermudez, are returning to Nicaragua? Also, we know that you have presented charges against Honduras before the International Court of Justice at The Hague, but are you planning other actions in order to force them to abide by the Esquipulas agreements?

[Ortega] In the past few weeks, the troops loyal to Bermudez have increased their actions in violation of the cease-fire agreement. The flow of forces between Honduras and Nicaragua has been increased. Regarding Honduras, we are adopting certain measures, and the Foreign Ministry will expand on them shortly. However, it is necessary to continue denouncing Honduras and the

fact that they are not abiding by the Esquipulas agreements. The fact that Honduras has accepted contras on its territory is a violation of those agreements.

[Reporter] General, Alfredo Cesar yesterday said that if these negotiations were measured on a scale of 1 to 10, he would have to give them a 6 or 7. How much ground was lost in these negotiations? Also, two witnesses were present at the talks; can they ask the contras to do something?

[Ortega] We already said that in the next few days we will be asking them for a report. We are going to study this report. It is quite evident that they have tried to kill 18 of the 31 points already agreed upon. It is hot in here! [laughter]

[Reporter] I have a question.

[Ortega] You are from Costa Rica, are you not?

[Reporter] Yes, sir.

[Ortega] Very well, let's hear your question. [laughter]

[Reporter] I understand that both parties are willing to start another round of direct talks. Even though the contras were a bit ambiguous in their answers, we did read between the lines that they are also willing to continue the talks. I would like to know whether there is any contact between the parties or if this contact has been broken.

[Ortega] I think that the Nicaraguan Government has proven that it is willing to negotiate. I do not think that the contras' ambiguous attitude is proof of their willingness to negotiate. You cannot have an ambiguous attitude when the people's blood is being shed. You have to be very clear; you either want war or you want negotiations. Their attitude is very ambiguous. We have a warmongering Bermudez and a hesitant Cesar. [Words indistinct] they have expelled their leader from the negotiations. For the time being, we still have a minimum number of communication channels open. Therefore, if they want to reach us, they have the channels that we have been using to date.

RN's Cesar on Talks Conclusion

PA1006001688 Paris AFP in Spanish 2335 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] Managua, 9 Jun (AFP)—Alfredo Cesar, chief negotiator of the Nicaraguan Resistance (RN), has announced that the negotiations between the contras and the Sandinists for a cease-fire in Nicaragua were broken today and that the delegations were unable to reach any agreements.

However, Cesar said that the RN feels that the war should not resume, stressing that RN troops will not be the ones to resume hostilities, suspended by the truce agreed upon in Sapoa on 23 March.

The contra leader announced that in the next few days, the RN will ask the dialogue's witnesses, Nicaraguan Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo and OAS Secretary General Joao Baena Soares, for their testimony regarding what happened during the meetings.

The delegations, which concluded their fifth [as received] round of high-level talks, did not set any dates for a new round of talks.

The rebel delegation will leave Managua for Costa Rica at 1900 today.

Daniel Ortega on Possible Wage Adjustment

PA0906214588 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Report on statement by President Daniel Ortega; date and place not given— passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] The Nicaraguan revolutionary government is studying the implementation of some economic measures to establish an adequate balance between prices and wages. Daniel Ortega made that remark today when discussing the need to make a salary adjustment:

[Ortega] "Wages have deteriorated following the implementation of the economic measures in late February. Thus, we have to (?adjust) wages in order to deal with that deterioration. [Words indistinct] prices so that the worker may pay the new prices and can continue buying what he has been buying so far."

Speaking about the economic measures' effectiveness during the 3 months of their implementation, Ortega said:

[Ortega] "The measures we took in February were submitted to a commission to better organize production, to give higher prices to products, and to give [words indistinct] to the labor force. This way, the worker can now say: I am going to earn more because I am working harder, and, therefore, I am producing more. I do not want the effort to be wasted; it often disappears. We must simply [words indistinct] schedule and that production is [words indistinct]. If the worker [words indistinct] schedule, with more work we will have greater productivity."

Tinoco Comments on Peace Talks, Situation

AU0806170288 Sofia OTECHESTVEN FRONT in Bulgarian 7 May 88 p 3

[Interview with Deputy Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco: "Will the Hopes Materialize?" by Lyubomir Gorinov, special correspondent in Managua—date not given]

[Text] These are decisive days. This is how we can describe the situation here in Managua, on the eve of the next round of negotiations between the Sandinist government and the leaders of the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionary groups. Naturally, the course of these events

is followed with justified interest, and not only in Nicaragua, since following 9 June, the "process of Sapoa," may continue, be replaced by stagnation, or, in the worst case, see the resumption of shooting in the areas near the borders with Honduras and Costa Rica. Since the events in Nicaragua are reflecting upon the whole area, we began our interview with Victor Hugo Tinoco, deputy foreign minister of Nicaragua, by asking him how he perceives the situation in Central America.

[Tinoco] You know that the Central American problems are complicated and varied, since they reflect the destinies of almost 30 million people, who are living in 5 republics and have to cope with different political, economic, and social problems. Naturally, the most difficult problems exist in those countries which, in addition to other issues, are confronted with military problems. This applies to Guatemala, El Salvador, and Nicaragua. In the case of Honduras things are somewhat different, since irregular military rule, resulting from total political dependence on the United States exists in that country. As to the present situation, it is becoming more complicated and no positive trends can be discerned. In the last 3 months Nicaragua has been the only country where a positive development can be assessed. Progress is underway in Nicaragua, although it is obstructed by periodic interruptions, the slowing down of pace, and the search for political solutions. All this is happening despite the fact that aggressive actions against our country are still being pursued. Nevertheless, viewed from the perspective of general considerations, the situation in Central America is further deteriorating, as shown by the development of events in El Salvador and Guatemala, where the threat of military coups is increasing and where there is no progress either in the political development or in respect of an armed opposition. In other words, the situation in Central America is complicated. I think that this is a logical result of the policy conducted for the past 8 years by the U.S. Administration. This has been a policy of war, a policy aimed at suppressing the Nicaraguan revolution. The Central American conflicts were exacerbated during this period and the situation has not changed.

[Gorinov] Nevertheless, can you say that these contradictions are contradictions within the states rather than between them?

[Tinoco] This is precisely so. We see how the economic and social crisis of the Central American peoples is merging with political tensions between individual states, which, however are not as intense as they were in the past; in other words they belong to a stage that we have overcome.

[Gorinov] Let us move on to the next question. The forthcoming round of negotiations with the counterrevolutionaries is scheduled to open on 7 June. What do you expect from these negotiations? I read a statement by Alfredo Cesar, one of the counterrevolutionary leaders, that "opportunities for an agreement are more tangible than ever." Is it not somewhat exaggerated to say that everything will be resolved within 3 days of negotiations?

[Tinoco] For the time being, it is impossible to predict the stand of the contras. You are quoting Cesar, but you should keep in mind the opinion expressed by Bermudez, according to whom "it is a waste of time to conduct negotiations." In other words, the forthcoming talks are not likely to be "totally positive" and this results from the previous round of negotiations at which the contras submitted a proposal to which the government replied with a counterproposal, but it was obvious that they had not come with the intention of signing an agreement. This is why we are anticipating 7 June with a certain, understandable reservation.

This interview takes place at a time when the first violations of the 2-month cease-fire occurred in various parts of northern Nicaragua—a fact which cannot fail to evoke concern. This is so because the difference between separate incidents and real combat is very small and the things which are now happening in various areas cannot fail to cast a grave shadow on the negotiations which have not yet opened.

Panama

Legislator Proposes Break in U.S. Relations

PA1006004988 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2232 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Summary from poor reception] During the evening session of the Legislative Assembly on 9 June, Legislator Rigoberto Paredes of the ruling Democratic Revolutionary Party presented a motion that the day's agenda be modified to allow discussion of the following resolution, which he was presenting jointly with co-party legislator Guillermo Jimenez: That Foreign Minister Jorge Ritter and Aquilino Boyd, designated Panamanian ambassador to the United States, be summoned to appear before the Assembly to answer the following questions:

1. What effort has Ambassador Boyd made to demand his recognition by the U.S. State Department?

2. How much Panamanian money has Juan B. Sosa, recognized by the U.S. Government as Panama's ambassador, or any other Panamanian spent illegally?

3. How much money is in the Panamanian Government's Account No 2 established by the U.S. Government in the Federal Reserve Bank of New York?

4. How is Panama's position regarding the economic and political crisis, caused "unjustly" by the United States, being explained to the countries with which Panama has diplomatic relations?

5. What is the foreign minister's opinion of the scheduling of a Latin American president's summit on the Panama case?

6. Does the Foreign Ministry feel that the U.S. military presence in Panama is a threat to other Latin American countries?

7. Is the U.S. military presence in Panama a threat to the sovereignty and independence of the other Latin American countries?

8. Why hasn't Panama presented its case to the UN Security Council?

9. Why hasn't Manuel Solis Palma participated in the ongoing special UN General Assembly session on disarmament?

10. Why hasn't a council of OAS foreign ministers been convoked to discuss the aggression against Panama?

11. "Why, after 100 days of resisting the brutal aggression of the Reagan government, hasn't Panama demanded normal diplomatic reciprocity, or, why hasn't Panama proceeded to break relations with the United States and to give Ambassador Davis and DCM John Maisto 48 hours to leave the country?"

In defending his motion, Legislator Paredes said that its purpose is to have government officials explain "why, in some cases, the strongest, bravest, most direct, and most decisive action has not been taken." He said that by failing to recognize the ambassador designated by Panama and by continuing to recognize a "phantom, fictional president," the United States has in fact already broken relations with Panama. He adds that if the government were to take such an action, "steps would immediately be taken to arrive at the final solution to our problem," and there would then be a "more decisive, stronger, more overwhelming support" from the other Latin American countries and the rest of the world. This, he said, would give the Reagan government pause, and that government would "not only suspend all types of aggression against Panama, but would also begin to take steps to extend the appropriate apologies to us and to make reparation for the damage it has caused Panama in all areas."

In the subsequent vote count on the proposal to modify the day's agenda, there were 28 votes in favor, none against, and 15 abstentions. This was not enough for approval of the resolution.

CRITICA Alleges U.S. To 'Harden' Policy

PA0906231788 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 9 Jun 88 p 4

[From the "Political Arena" column by Baltazar Renan Aizpurua with contribution from Jorge Montalvan: "Pineapples With Balls"]

[Text] It now seems that Woerner [General Fred F. Woerner, commander in chief of the U.S. Southern Command] wants to follow the path of Elliott [Abrams, U.S. assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs], the crazy man. According to THE WASHINGTON POST, an unidentified gringo official stated that the Southern Command is getting ready to harden its policy in Panama. It will increase military exercises, send "more aggressive patrols," and seek other ways to deploy forces to increase alleged internal tensions within the Panama Defense Forces.

This means that Woerner, after going on little trips throughout Central America and plotting against Panama with every single servile individual he could find, has decided to increase what everyone regards as provocations against the Panama Defense Forces. The psychological warfare will be reinforced as the continuation of a well-organized plan, something that people already know about. However, the gringos are getting creative. The latest news is that it has just been discovered that Noriega is one of the main owners of the Rancho Rio Company, which exports melons to the United States. Imagine the rest: They will wind up discovering that Noriega is the main shareholder of every firm that exports something to gringoland, whether coffee, bananas, sugar, cacao, petroleum, shrimp (shrimp!), lumber, etc. and proceed to implement the final plan: a commercial embargo against our country, but with the advantage that it will not be announced as such; it will be announced as "measures against Noriega's capital interests."

We are a bunch of imbeciles. On the one hand, Woerner describes our customs officials' response to his command's decision to allow people without privileges to use their commissaries as "harassment." Woerner has called on everyone to be prepared to handle any incident that may occur in light of these provocations and "to take advantage of them." He will learn the same lesson that other equally arrogant generals learned with the blood of their young men: real harassment only turns guards into targets of the people; he will find out what harassment is when someone, fed up with all this stupid arrogance, one morning decides to leave a gift, wrapped in a plastic bag, at the consulate. Doesn't Lebanon mean anything to the dear general?

Regarding what the Panamanian export companies can expect: Just imagine what the very anticommunist peasants of the Cerro Punta cooperative, or the small package producers in Cocle or Azuero will say when they find out that Delvalle has frozen all their money deposited in U.S. banks. Just like a BALTIMORE SUN editorial said: "General Noriega ran a capitalist economy until we destroyed it."

Today the gringos no longer want our melons, oranges, other citrus products, or any product produced by Panamanians. It seems that they only want our pineapple balls [pinas cojonudas], and there is quite an appetite for this in Washington and Miami. Ha, ha, ha. Their mouths will water, and I get the feeling that they will have to do without.

Planning Minister Reportedly Proposes Dismissals

PA0906173188 Paris AFP in Spanish 0445 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Excerpt) Panama, 8 Jun (AFP)—Saul Quiroz, press secretariat of the National Federation of Associations of

Public Employees [FENASEP] today reported in Panama City that the Planning and Economic Policy Ministry has proposed the firing of 25,000 public workers to face the fiscal crisis the country is enduring.

Quiroz' statements were made after some 3,000 workers from the Finance Ministry announced they are in "state of alert" because 52 workers have been dismissed as part of a plan to reduce the government's labor force.

Quiroz said the indiscriminate' dismissals proposal has surprised FENASEP; he did not rule out a public workers strike.

Panama has a state payroll estimated at 125,000 workers out of a total working population of 900,000 workers, who earn some $74 million a month. [passage omitted]

50 Nicaraguan Advisers Reportedly Arrive

PA0906144988 San José LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 3 Jun 88 p 9

[Text] Fifty Nicaraguan Interior Ministry advisers have arrived in Panama to provide assistance to the Defense Ministry [as published].

According to the first reports received from the Panamanian capital, the Sandinist military officials are experts in riot control. Sources from the Panama Defense Forces said one of the objectives of the officials who have just arrived is to organize defense committees to better control the civilian population.

The report was confirmed by Lieutenant Oscar Torres, a Sandinist defector who said this is part of an old expansion plan for Central America.

Station Derides Noriega's Intelligence

PA1006052588 (Clandestine) Radio Constitucional in Spanish 1730 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Station commentary: "Noriega's Intelligence"]

[Text] Noriega has had a negative effect on the lives of all Panamanians. His terrible status as a drug trafficker has stained the reputation of our military personnel and tarnished the reputations of their children and other relatives. The rejection and repudiation to which the schoolchildren of Panamanian military personnel are subjected is a tragedy. Many of those children have been sent abroad to avoid ostracism and shame.

In addition to the destruction of civic and moral values in our society as a result of the corrupting influence of his power, Noriega is using pacts with criminals as a strategy of intimidation, also intended to create a desperate dependence on the protection given by the Panama Police Force, which defenseless, unarmed citizens must request as a favor. Unemployment, ruin, pessimism, desperation, and now a vague, insidious fear have taken over every single Panamanian living in this country.

However, as a result of the deepest commitment to freedom in the hearts of Panamanians, there is emerging—like a bad seed or canker—a feeling of hatred and a steadfast determination to get rid of this evil scourge that is afflicting us.

Now, after the economy and the source of employment of thousands of Panamanians have been destroyed, the selective dismissal of government employees has begun. We say selective, because it is not a matter of dismissing employees who are useless or dishonest. No, quite the opposite. [Words indistinct] in the Finance Ministry are dismissing employees with up to 30 years of public service and even pregnant women. Only proteges or accomplices will remain.

In spite of all this, many of the regime's beneficiaries insist on flattering Noriega and praising him in public, making paradoxical assessments of his intelligence. They say he is intelligent because he has acquired wealth while acting outside the law and dealing in human suffering; because he has become powerful, while corrupting his associates, murdering his enemies, deceiving his adversaries, and blackmailing his associates; because he has remained in power, while selling our national sovereignty to the Cubans and to drug traffickers, retaining foreign mercenaries as escorts to guard him, and intimidating Panamanians through terrorist acts and misinformation.

In all of this, Noriega has shown his cunning, but never has he shown intelligence. He has driven himself into a corner, to the lowest levels of national and international politics. He has written his own page in Panamanian history books that will be the dirtiest, most ignoble, and least memorable page. He will certainly leave the country soon, but already he has brought more destruction than a raging hurricane in the Caribbean. His behavior has been that of a sick, insecure, and psychopathic person. Crafty, yes; intelligent, never.

Dismissed Vice President Esquivel Interviewed

PM0906150988 Madrid YA in Spanish 27 May 88 p 12

[Lola Fernandez dispatch: "Esquivel: 'Panama Has Only Two Choices—Communism or Overthrowing Noriega'"]

[Excerpt] Panama City—Roderick Esquivel, current vice president in the Delvalle government and possible president of a transitional government if an agreement is reached between the United States and Noriega, has been living at an unknown address since his dismissal by the Panamanian leader in February. Esquivel believes that Panama is confronted with only two—really dangerous— choices: Either to establish a communist government or to overthrow Noriega by armed force. Nobody has the strength to drive Noriega out of this country right now.

Delvalle's vice president spoke in a slow and measured tone, without raising it, in an empty house in the suburbs of the capital, lent by some friends for this occasion. And

it was from this moment in Panama that I had the impression of being watched. In Esquivel's opinion, the United States has put a price on Noriega's head, not because he is a dictator but because he has smuggled thousands of kilos of cocaine into the U.S. backyard and laundered millions of dollars over the past year.

Concerning the negotiations with the United States, he believes that the two conditions laid down by General Noriega are impossible: "He wants to leave the country, but leaving the door open for his return, and, what is worse, he wants his power apparatus to be kept intact. The situation has become more complicated, since in the U.S. election campaign it divides the administration from Vice President Bush, who is opposed to dropping the criminal charges against Noriega, which will undoubtedly harm his campaign as the Republican candidate. Thus the United States has succeeded only in wasting time, allowing the strong man to strengthen his position and his apparatus to become even more powerful," Esquivel asserted.

Regressive Effect [subhead]

Delvalle's vice president also harshly criticized the imposition of U.S. economic sanctions: "All that is being achieved with this boycott is a regressive effect. The more time passes, the more the people lose their purchasing power, and there is a radicalization of society, which, increasingly desperate, tilts toward violence."

The Liberal Party [PLN], which he heads, has again offered a hand to the Panamanian Christian Democratic Party [PDC], in a joint effort to become stronger, but their political paths have diverged greatly in the past, since the PDC believed that the promise of a transition given after the 1984 elections was a farce, while the Liberals did not deem it advisable to ostracize the military, as in Argentina. Following the persecution suffered by both parties when the dictatorship became harsher, the PDC and the PLN have come together again over the past few months.

"If Washington succeeds in ousting Noriega, we must clarify our problems here, since the opposition does not have a clear enough idea of what government it wants."

In Esquivel's opinion, the Panamanian strongman's dictatorship is the worst in the political history of the whole of Latin America: "A good European dictator resembles Noriega, although he has presented another image to the outside world just because he kills people." [sentence as published] "Throughout his campaign," Esquivel continued, "his alliance with Fidel Castro has helped him present it as a nationalist cause, standing up to the Yankees in order to become a martyr of local communism."

But, however much Noriega provokes the United States, Esquivel denies any possibility of intervention: "We are an important country for the White House, but, mind you, they know that we are not Grenada." Esquivel also expressed his disagreement with the U.S. stance in favor of a new election being held in Panama in May 1989—that is, in less than a year.

"How are we going to hold elections with a whole power apparatus under Noriega's dictatorship? The election makes no sense unless it is something in which the people can express their wishes. That has already happened in Nicaragua, where, after Somoza's downfall, Washington imposed compulsory concentrated elections, with a decimated opposition, which gave the Sandinistas an easy victory." [passage omitted]

CEM Releases Objectives to Midlevel Officers

PA0906192988 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA .in Spanish 9 Jun 88 pp A-1, A-8

[Text] The objectives of the Strategic Military Council (CEM)—an organization recently created to advise General Manuel Antonio Noriega and his general staff, "regarding strategic decisions"—were released on 7 June to 180 Panama Defense Forces [FDP] officers, who are members of midlevel commands and who work in the 1st and 2d Military Regions.

The FDP midlevel commanders—4 months ago (on 8 February), some had requested the expulsion of the U.S. Southern Command from Panamanian territory, "because its presence is not included in the Torrijos-Carter Treaties"—attended an informative meeting held in a National Transit Department classroom.

The meeting was presided over by CEM member Lieutenant Colonel Aristides Hassan, who is an inspector of military zones.

In addition to Lt Col Aristides Hassan, Majors Pascual Gonzalez, Daniel Delgado Diamante, Armando Palacios Gondola, and Humberto Melara also attended the meeting and answered questions concerning the CEM mission, function, organization, formation, and national goals.

The 1st Military Region includes the Panama and Colon Provinces, western Panama, and San Miguelito District—areas that compose the 1st, 2d, 10th, and 11th Military Zones, respectively.

The 2d Military Region includes Darien Province and the San Blas Intendence, which are also the 9th and 12th Military Zones, respectively.

Aleman Boyd Reviews Assembly's Problems

PA0906232188 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Report on interview with Legislative Assembly President Alberto Aleman Boyd by unidentified reporter on 8 June; place not given]

[Text] The lack of financial resources, the country's political crisis, and the lack of support from some ministers have prevented the Legislative Assembly from

working for the people, Legislative Assembly President Alberto Aleman Boyd said this afternoon. He denied that other government bodies were meddling in the Legislative Assembly's internal affairs.

[Begin recording] [Aleman Boyd] Legislators have pointed out that there is a lack of financial resources, and I must add that sometimes we do not receive the necessary support from ministers and autonomous institution directors for the government's search for positive solutions to our people's problems, especially in these times of crisis. We have mentioned this to the president.

[Reporter] Legislator Guillermo Cochez has also criticized the fact that the country is being ruled by executive decrees. Proof of this is that so far in 1988, only one law has been approved.

[Aleman Boyd] No, that is not true. If he said only one law has been approved, then I disagree with him. I believe we have approved three laws in the Assembly, not only one. However, the political situation has hurt us. There is something very important we must all realize: The situation in our country over the past year has not been normal; it is a completely abnormal situation full of economic, political, and social unrest. We cannot distance ourselves from or ignore this situation. The Legislative Assembly, as it has been represented by the different legislators, is virtually a political arm affecting the national situation.

Of course, the Assembly—in view of the economic, political, and social situation—must also engage in discussions of everyday, national political issues. Because there are government and opposition legislators, these kinds of discussions and exchanges of ideas take place in our parliament, which naturally sometimes delay the debates on the approval of laws. [end recording]

Argentina

Foreign Ministry Demands Talks With UK

PY1006005488 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2342 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Jun (TELAM)—The Foreign Ministry reiterated today that Argentina insists that negotiations with the UK be resumed, with an agenda that does not exclude any topic, particularly that of sovereignty.

That intention was expressed in a communique released this afternoon on the eve of the celebrations of the Day of Argentina's Rights Affirmation Over the Malvinas and South Atlantic Islands.

The communique begins by noting that a new anniversary of the promulgation of the 10 June 1829 decree, instituting the Political and Military Command of the Malvinas Islands and Cape Horn Adjacent Areas in the South Atlantic, will be commemorated tomorrow.

Beyond this, the communique continues, the date we commemorate has a profound civic significance: the evidence of the will of an entire nation and its successive governments since the British usurpation of 1833, not to accept an illegal occupation and to recover the physical integrity of our territory.

The communique adds that the efforts of so many Argentines, in various areas of activity, have been devoted to the struggle to attain that objective.

The communique says that the present Argentine Government firmly proceeds with those efforts in compliance with the UN Charter's fundamental principle of peaceful solutions to international controversies.

In those efforts, the communique ends, this government is encouraged by pronouncements of the great majority of the international community in favor of a prompt negotiated solution to this dispute.

It then notes that the British Government, however, has maintained an attitude of noncompliance with resolutions in international forums, and has adopted decisions that only serve to increase tensions in the South Atlantic area, such as the declaration of a fishing zone in Argentine territorial waters and the recently held military maneuvers on the Malvinas Islands and in the South Atlantic.

Finally, the communique indicates that nevertheless, Argentina, based on its reasonable position, expects a positive gesture from the British Government, which, by complying with the international community's recommendations, will open the way to resume negotiations between the two countries.

Denies Communique on Maneuvers

PY0906155188 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1530 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Jun (TELAM)—The Foreign Ministry today flatly denied the existence of a communique regarding some alleged British maneuvers on the Ascension Island. Two dailies of this capital have reported the communique's existence.

The Foreign Ministry is obliged to flatly deny that it has issued such a communique on that topic, according to official information the Foreign Ministry released today.

The press reports that are being denied refer to a short communique that was supposed to have been released by the Foreign Ministry, that states it had nothing to say about the military operations to be held on Ascension Island, because these alleged maneuvers will take place in waters that are currently not involved in a controversy.

Army Prepares for Midwinter Maneuvers

PY0906033388 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2000 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Jun (NA)—Approximately 5,000 men of the 8th Infantry Brigade will participate in the first combat maneuvers conducted in winter in more than a decade. The maneuvers will be carried out in the mountainous region of Mendoza Province at the end of this month. They will end between 2 and 3 July in the presence of Defense Minister Horacio Jaunarena and Army Chief of Staff General Dante Caridi.

The combat maneuvers will end with the traditional fellowship dinner to celebrate 9 July [Argentine independence day]. This time the dinner will be served at bivouacs in the maneuver area on 7 July.

Two days later, the personnel of the 8th mountain infantry brigade who participated in the maneuvers will parade wearing the same combat gear used during the maneuvers and dressed in their traditional uniforms.

These details were disclosed to NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS today by a high-level Army source, who said that the maneuvers will actually begin about 10 days before General Caridi and Minister Jaunarena arrive in Mendoza.

Troops from San Rafael, San Juan, San Luis, and Mendoza will participate in the maneuver that will include deployments from the south, north, east, and west toward the town of El Plumerillo, a historic site because San Martin trained the Army of the Andes there.

According to the source, Army personnel from San Rafael, San Luis, Uspallata, San Juan, and Puente del Inca will start to advance—simulating combat—toward the historical field of El Plumerillo.

The source added that "this is the first time that a maneuver of such magnitude will be carried out in midwinter, which, it must be admitted, represents a great effort for the troops and officers."

The final phase of the maneuver, in which armored infantry units and artillery pieces will participate, will take place between Saturday, 2 July, and Sunday, 3 July.

By that time, the troops participating in the maneuver will converge on "El Plumerillo," where they will continue the maneuver until Thursday, 7 July, when the traditional fellowship dinner will be held.

The military banquet will be held in the bivouac area, and 2 days later the armymen will parade to celebrate independence day.

It is believed that the ski troops will parade in their traditional uniforms while the rest of the Army personnel do so in their combat gear.

Soviet Envoy Explains Importance of Summit
PY0906150288 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0858 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Jun (TELAM)—USSR special envoy Vladimir Lomeyko said the bilateral summit recently held in Moscow between Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and U.S. President Ronald Reagan was very important. He said it was the first step toward any agreement to be reached now or in the future.

The Soviet envoy, who has been sent to Argentina by Gorbachev, also pointed out that one of the most important achievements of the summit was to show the U.S. President around the USSR.

Lomeyko explained that during the summit, the agreements, which had been signed in Washington in December 1987, were ratified. He emphasized the historical importance of the fact. He added that the talks on the elimination of 50 percent of the strategic weapons is also very important.

In an interview to the morning paper LA NACION, Lomeyko said the Soviet officials are engaged in making disarmament a reality and are willing to reduce the manufacture of war materiel. If this goal is reached, he said, there will be more capital to invest in the Third World and to solve the most severe ecological problems existing on the planet.

Planned Defense Enterprise Restructuring Viewed
PY0606004588 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0037 GMT 4 Jun 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Jun (TELAM)—The government will implement a plan for restructuring the enterprises of the defense area, including the sale and privatization of some plants, and the investing of a total of $40 million to modernize factories.

The plan also envisages the gradual reduction, until they are eliminated, of the Treasury allocations to those enterprises, which this year will decrease by 20 percent in real terms with respect to 1987 allocations. This amounts to approximately $25 million. The details of the plan were released to the press by Defense Minister Jose Horacio Jaunarena during a press conference that was also attended by Defense Production Secretary Jose Llados, Technical Planning Secretary Adalberto Rodriguez Giavarini, and Presidential Secretary General Carlos Becerra.

The minister said the privatization of enterprises and the sale of unused buildings will yield more than $100 million, although he declined to give a precise figure because the evaluation of enterprise assets is about to end, perhaps in 15 days.

Jaunarena said the use of the foreign debt capitalization mechanism has not been foreseen for the privatization, and that in the case of Petroquimica Atanor the clause that establishes that shareholders can make the first offer will be respected. In the other enterprises, however, the assets will be offered for public bidding.

He said efforts will be made to attract private capital to the sector in order to facilitate the development of products at the TAMSE [expansion unknown] tank factory, the Domecq Garcia shipyard, and the State Naval Factories and Shipyards (AFNE).

Concerning TAMSE, the minister reported that Ecuador has awarded an initial contract [preadjudicada] to it for providing tanks to Ecuador for more than $100 million. In competition with French, U.S., and Austrian tanks, TAMSE got the highest number of points.

He added there are possibilities involving selling the Pampa IA63 advanced training plane on the U.S. market, after U.S. pilots subjected two of the planes to tests that yielded satisfactory results.

Jaunarena said the restructuring plan has been formulated within the framework of the announcements made by President Alfonsin in his speech to Congress on 1 May. He denied that it has anything to do with the repayment of the foreign debt. On the contrary, it has been prompted by our need to have profitable companies, instead of companies that yield deficits, he remarked, adding that if this is accomplished, it will be possible for us to finance the refurbishing of our Armed Forces, a goal that cannot be postponed.

At the same time, by modernizing the industrial process of the defense industries and by reequipping the Armed Forces, our situation of dependence will improve with respect to [words indistinct] which in the past had to be purchased [words indistinct], he said.

Concerning the transformation of the structures, Jaunarena said the objective is to adjust the enterprises from a legal and an organizational viewpoint, in order to improve their efficiency, their commercial capacity, and their competitiveness, thus increasing their exports.

As for the General Directorate of Military Factories, he said its legal structure as an autonomous agency has caused several types of difficulties, like the existence of multiple objectives that have been established by the federal government. These objectives are frequently contradictory and have led to poor business performance and negative financial results, he remarked.

In order to improve the situation of the national directorate of military factories, the current plants and factories will be organized according to their production lines. This division will lead to the creation of corporations, giving more flexibility to the regulations that might otherwise prevent them from operating at a competitive level. At the same time, the possibility of allowing the participation of private capital in joint enterprises, as in the case of the nitric acid [acido nitrico], railway material, and electronic material sectors, will be analyzed, the minister said.

He explained that with the funds obtained from the sale of petrochemical companies' shares and the sale of buildings, the National Directorate of Military Factories will develop a program of investment that provides for a $40-million allocation for modernizing and streamlining production in 12 of its plants.

A $5-million allocation will go to the construction of a hydrazine [hidrazina] plant, the project for which is in an advanced stage, in cooperation with private capital in Neuquen Province, in productive combination with the CNEA, which will provide the necessary land. The possibility of building an explosives and ammunition plant at the Sierra Grande industrial park in Rio Negro has also been considered.

Jaunarena also referred to the action that the Air Force has undertaken to transform its internal production and maintenance organizations into corporations with the participation of private national and foreign enterprises, with the objective of improving the use of the Cordoba material plant capacity.

In this regard, he said the following organizations have already been established: the Argentine Factory of Aerospace Material (FAMA) (planes and helicopters), Aeronautical Technological Systems (SITEA) (launchable weapons), and Integradora Aerospacial (INTESA) (goods and spare parts for the aerospace industry).

The sale of equipment and real estate that are not essential for the productive process has also been considered. In the case of real estate, the total area is 2,155.6 hectares.

During the press conference Jaunarena gave details concerning the privatization of the petrochemical companies and the liquidation of other enterprises.

The minister explained that the state will remain the only shareholder in those enterprises in which, for strategic reasons, the participation of the private sector would be inadvisable. He said the private sector will be allowed to participate in those areas in which it will not affect the nation's strategic interest.

He also announced that a draft law on production for defense will be submitted to Congress in the near future, and that this law will give a more appropriate legal framework for the measures that his ministry is sponsoring.

There is broad consensus on this draft law, because Radical and Justicialist lawmakers were previously consulted, Jaunarena said.

Low Power Nuclear Reactor Under Development

PY0806124888 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0903 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] Salta, 7 Jun (TELAM)—The Applied Research Institute, INVAP, is designing a nuclear reactor that will produce 15 megawatts in low consumption nuclear plants or when the system is connected to the national electrical network.

This information was given to TELAM by INVAP Mananger Tomas Buch, who attended the nuclear technology week event held in Salta on the 38th anniversary of the National Commission for Atomic Energy (CNEA). Buch said that the project is developing well and that it should be completed in 2 to 3 years. He added that there is no reactor of this type in the world.

He also indicated that because of its capacity the reactor can be used in remote towns.

INVAP is also working on a light transportation system of self-propelled cars which run at speeds of 120 km per hour on elevated cement tracks. Buch said that the first prototype will be tested between the CNEA plant of San Carlos de Bariloche and the Pilcaniyeu plant of INVAP, both of which are in Rio Negro Province.

INVAP is also developing the technology of cobalt radition for radiotherapy with cobalt 60 for cancer treatment.

Buch said that INVAP is a state enterprise for developing technology which works both in scientific research and production. INVAP gets no subsidies from the national treasury and is self-financed. Last year INVAP had a surplus. Its budget last year was 30 million australes.

Buch said that INVAP technicians are helping to install a reactor in Algeria and another in Peru.

Brazil

Sarney Returns to Brasilia From U.S.

PY0906121988 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Excerpt] President Jose Sarney is already in Brasilia. He arrived from New York early this morning, having attended the third UN Special Meeting on Disarmament.

President Sarney and his entourage arrived at 0110 this morning and were received by Deputy Ulysses Guimaraes, who was acting president during Sarney's 4-day trip, some ministers and congressmen.

Presidential spokesman Carlos Henrique said President Sarney's trip was a success. [passage omitted]

Sarney Said Optimistic About Debt Negotiations

PY0906145588 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 8 Jun 88 p 16

[By Regis Nestrovski]

[Text] New York—Ambassador Marcilio Marques Moreira has said President Sarney's visit to New York reassured him on two points. First, that on the 10-June meeting the United States will not retaliate against the measures provided by the Brazilian law on computer sciences. Second, that Brazil and the creditor banks will reach an agreement within the next few days.

Ambassador Moreira told O GLOBO that there is only one conflictive point to be solved during the talks with the banks. He added that each party will have to give a little and the agreement will then be reached, particularly now that the agreement is no longer conditioned to resorting to the IMF.

The ambassador, who came to New York accompanying President Sarney during his visit to the United Nations, is in permanent contact with Antonio de Padua Seixas and Sergio Amaral who are negotiating the Brazilian foreign debt and spent whole days in meetings with the foreign debt advisory commission at the Citibank headquarters.

The conflictive point Ambassador Moreira mentioned is the prejudgment attachment [preceding two words in English], which consists of a Brazilian guarantee that there will be no more moratoriums, and that, if there is one, the creditor banks may confiscate Brazilian assets abroad. Brazil does not agree to this clause, which is traditionally included in contracts. As a U.S. banker told O GLOBO: The interesting point of this fact is that this clause is a mere formality. This clause existed in the last agreement, and the creditors did not apply it when Brazil declared the moratorium. This clause is merely a formality. Date for Signing the Agreement [subhead]

The date for the end of the negotiations with the creditor banks does not concern President Jose Sarney. He believes the delay in the negotiation is the result of the Brazilian decision not to yield to the negotiators' demands.

During his visit to the Brazilian Mission at the United Nations, President Sarney said: With the clauses we will sign with the creditors, Brazil will be able to pay its debt without sacrificing the people or hindering its development.

Portuguese Prime Minister Arrives 8 June

PY0906113288 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2255 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Excerpt] Portuguese Prime Minister Anibal Cavaco Silva arrived in Brazil today to try to promote bilateral economic relations. Cavaco Silva arrived at 1100 at Rio de Janeiro's international airport.

From the airport, the visitor and his entourage went to the Laranjeiras Palace, which is the residence of the Rio de Janeiro governor. At the Palace, the Prime Minister had lunch with politicians, the Rio de Janeiro archbishop, and GLOBO organization President Roberto Marinho.

In the afternoon, Cavaco Silva met with 120 Brazilian businessmen at the national industrial confederation headquarters, where he tried to promote bilateral trade by [words indistinct] a market of more than 300 million consumers of the EEC. The Prime Minister advocated the creation of partnershps using Brazilian and Portuguese capital in order to have access to the EEC market. These partnerships would allow the joint industrial enterprises to have the same advantages that the European industries will have in 1992, when there will be no more commercial barriers in Europe. [passage omitted]

Visits Brazilia, Meets Sarney

PY0906183488 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 1600 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] President Jose Sarney has received Portuguese Prime Minister Anibal Cavaco Silva along with First Lady Marly and Foreign Minister Abreu Sodre.

After listening to the national anthem of the two countries, President Sarney and the prime minister inspected the troops parading at the Brasilia Air Force base.

From the base, President Sarney and Minister Cavaco Silva went to the Portuguese Embassy to celebrate, 1 day early, the Portuguese National Day, which is known as Camoes Day.

This afternoon, the prime minister will have a full agenda in Brasilia. He will visit the National Supreme Court, the Congress, and hold a working meeting with President Sarney at 1630.

The prime minister's visit to Brasilia ends tomorrow, when he will go to Sao Paulo.

Brazilian Group To Open Supermarket in Moscow

PY0906193088 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 8 Jun 88 p 22

[Text] The first Pao de Acucar Supermarket to be built in Moscow will be ready by the end of the year. The Moscow group will build the 6,000-square-meter building, and the Brazilian Group will install the equipment. After defeating the French, Dutch, and Italians in a tender bidding opened by the Soviet Government, the Pao de Acucar Group signed a contract on 11 May for the opening of the supermarket. In return, the Group will remodel one of its 34 stores in Portugal to sell only USSR-made products.

The Group started business with the USSR via Portugal. According to Abilio Diniz, vice president of the Group's Administrative Council, Andrey Gromyko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, was interested in strengthening relations with Portugal, and "stimulating the activities of this channel to Brazil." The Pao de Acucar Group acts as a Brazilian Embassy in Portugal and offers support to businessmen.

Diniz said the fact that the Group continued to supply its store in Angola and export to Mozambique, even during the war between the two former colonies, also helped to create a good image of the Group. The store to be installed in Moscow will sell products from all over the world, including Soviet-made products. Business will be done on the barter-system basis, Diniz added. The Group will be paid in oil, for example, which the trading [preceding word in English] company would then sell. "To speak of $2-, or $3-, or even $4-million investments now would be like pure speculation," Diniz said.

Colombia

13 Cabinet Ministers Tender Resignations

PA0906215188 Paris AFP in Spanish 2035 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] Bogota, 9 Jun (AFP)—The 13 ministers of Colombian President Barco's liberal government today tendered their resignations to allow the president to restructure the cabinet as his government nears the middle of its term.

The texts of the resignations, considered merely a formality, were disclosed by Government Minister Cesar Gaviria.

Barco's cabinet is composed of 12 members, who all belong to the governing party, and a military man heading the Defense Ministry.

Barco Appoints New Cabinet

PA1006024688 Paris AFP in Spanish 0155 GMT 10 Jun 88

[Text] Bogota, 9 Jun (AFP)—Colombian President Virgilio Barco today reshuffled his cabinet. Barco reappointed five ministers and appointed eight new ministers.

President Barco's new cabinet members, most of whom are members of the Colombian parliament, are members of the ruling Liberal Party. The new Colombian cabinet list is as follows:

Government Minister Cesar Gaviria; reappointed.
Foreign Minister Julin Londono; reappointed.
National Defense Minister General Rafael Samudio; reappointed.
Finance and Public Credit Minister Luis Fernando Alarcon; reappointed.
Public Works and Transport Minister Luis Fernando Jaramillo; reappointed.
Justice Minister Luis Guillermo Giraldo.
Labor and Social Security Minister Juan Martin Caicedo.
Agriculture Minister Gabriel Rosas.
Public Health Minister Luis H. Arrau.
Mines and Energy Minister Oscar Mejia.
Communications Minister Pedro Martin Leyes.
National Education Minister Manuel Francisco Becerra.
Economic Development Minister Carlos Arturo Marulanda.

The solution to the crisis came only 4 hours after the 13 ministers tendered their resignations. President Barco was advised of the resignations by Government Minister Cesar Gaviria.

Government Suspends Radio Station Broadcasts

PA0906180788 Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 1 Jun 88 pp 1, 2

[Unattributed article: "3-Day Sanction for Todelar Radio Network"]

[Text] Colombian Labor Minister Diego Younes Moreno, who is currently handling the communication minister's duties, has issued Resolution No 2,474, sanctioning Radio Continental, the lead station of the Todelar Radio Network. The resolution suspends that radio station's broadcasts for 3 days.

The sanction was imposed because the Todelar newscast aired unconfirmed reports concerning Alvaro Gomez Hurtado's abduction.

The resolution summarizes some of the information given by the aforementioned newscast and concludes "that the aforementioned facts clearly confirm the transmission of biased news, because, arbitrarily and unobjectively, one of the many phone calls was chosen as the true [report] and was carelessly broadcast. Hours later, the radio station was forced to deny that report because of contradictory reports."

The resolution continues: "Based on the first report transmitted by the Todelar station, other radio stations in the country took the report to be truthful. Therefore,

it can be asserted that Todelar also violated the law that demands the transmission of true and accurate news. [quotation marks as published]

The resolution, which contains 13 introductory "points," resolves:

"Article 1: To suspend the AM radio transmissions that Radio Continental Limited broadcasts via Radio Continental in Bogota for 3 full, consecutive days beginning on the day the current resolution goes into effect.

"Article 2: To order the Communications Ministry section for programming control to verify the fulfillment of the sanction.

"Article 3: The current resolution is valid from the moment of its issuance."

In the 29 May broadcasts, Edgar Artunduaga, director of the radio newscast transmitted by Todelar Newscast of Colombia, said: "... Other phone calls have been received by Todelar in the last few minutes. They are cruel, alarming calls about Dr Alvaro Gomez Hurtado...." He also said: "...We will not give any more publicity to those phone calls we are receiving and will not grant them any credence either...."

Paraguay

Colorado Program on U.S. Ambassador's Departure

PY0906175088 Asuncion Domestic Service in Spanish 0030 GMT 9 Jun 88

[From "La Voz del Coloradismo" program]

[Excerpts] Evidently, sepoyism is not only an interesting and profitable profession for immoral individuals but it is also a virus that infects others with mental idiocy and stupidity. We cannot diagnose otherwise the illness of some individuals, politically born from test tubes manipulated by the brains of a subversive timetable.

These worthless politicians, who have no party, ideals, followers, programs, or doctrines, have now spread the lie that our leader's message in the United Nations did not say anything new and was a repetition of other speechs. [passage omitted]

To conclude, no evil can last 100 years, and this is dedicated to former U.S. to Paraguay Ambassador Clyde Taylor, who was, we must repeat, something like the chief of subversion or of the subversives in Paraguay. Now he will have to continue doing his dirty work outside this nation of peace. [passage omitted]

President Stroessner Makes UN Address

PY0606185488 Asuncion Red Nacional de Television in Spanish 1422 GMT 6 Jun 88

[Speech by President Alfredo Stroessner at UN Conference on Disarmament at the United Nations—live]

[Excerpts] Mr President, my presence here follows an honorable invitation to speak at the third special session of the UN General Assembly on disarmament, which was extended to me by Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar. This oustanding Latin American statesman places his clear intelligence and tenacious will at the service of this organization, and has won the recognition of the international community for his successful administration.

Perez de Cuellar works for peace, and he deserves all our support. We wish him success in this important task.

I am here in the name of the Paraguayan people and government to confirm the faith of our country in the founding principles of this prestigious organization.

I came to the United Nations with the same message of coexistence that I have taken to many American, European, Asian, and African countries, places where I found loyal friendship and fruitful cooperation.

It is an honor for me to bring the voice of the Paraguayan Republic to this important forum. Paraguay is a peaceful nation that shares the world ideals of security, freedom, justice, and progress. I am pleased to return to the United Nations after my first visit in March 1976, when I was welcomed by the then Secretary General, U Thant.

Our country participated in the historic foundation of the United Nations. Paraguay places great hopes in the charter signed in San Francisco on 26 June 1945 which proclaimed the basic objective of maintaining international peace and security.

This charter states the international community's purpose of taking collective measures to efficiently eliminate threats to peace and to mediate in the controversies and international conflicts in accordance with the principles of justice and international law.

Paraguay firmly advocates the principles of nonintervention in the internal affairs of other countries, the legal equality of nations, and the right to self-determination.

We clearly maintain at all international forums that relations between countries should be of just and legal cooperation. We advocate this principle of friendship and cooperation because we trust that the results, when countries relate with goodwill and spirit of solidarity, are beneficial to all.

We speak a constructive language of peace at all international events, conferences, and meetings, and thus project the reality of present-day Paraguay. The Paraguayan Constitution proclaims the respect for international law, condemns wars of aggression and conquest, and all forms of colonialism and imperialism. It agrees that international conflicts should be resolved through legal procedures, it advocates respect for human rights and the sovereignty of nations, and it expresses the wish to live in peace with all nations.

The entire world is concerned about the proliferation of nuclear and conventional weapons. The world demands that nuclear powers seriously consider their commitment to the cause of peace and security.

We cannot accept an unremitting advance in the arms race because it could provoke a universal disaster. The search for disarmament should not be only rhetorical. It should be demonstrated by showing respect for the basic values of all human existence.

At the 10th Extraordinary Session of the UN General Assembly, from 23 May to 1 July 1978, the first session devoted to the single issue of disarmament, a final document of great value was approved. It noted that the time has come to put an end to this situation, to abandon the use of force in international relations, and to seek security through disarmament, that is, through a gradual and effective process, which begins by reducing the current number of weapons.

The international conference on the relationship between disarmament and development, held from 24 August to 11 September 1987 under UN auspices, was an meeting of great importance in which Paraguay and other countries participated. At that time, Paraguay noted that the continuing arms race takes up an excessive proportion of the world's human, financial, natural, and technological resources. Paraguay further pointed out that the arms race imposes a heavy burden on the economies of all countries, and that it affects the flow of commerce, finances, and technology in the international community.

At the first international conference on the subject of disarmament and development, it was stated that a positive repercussion would result from shifting resources away from the arms race and toward development, which would enhance the objectives of peace and security, and the well-being and improvement of the developing countries' economic situation. We live in a situation where the world seeks increasing relaxation of tensions, and more sensible treatment of issues which, if not addressed with a spirit of peace, might lead to great conflicts with catastrophic effects for all human kind, and possibly to extinction of all signs of life on our planet.

His Holiness John Paul II, who visited Paraguay less than 2 weeks ago at our invitation, said in his thoughtful message to the United Nations in 1982, a message bearing the seal of his moral authority and the authenticity of his words, that peace is the upmost objective of UN activities, as well as that of all men of good will. The search for peace is not a utopian undertaking or an impossible dream, and war is not an inevitable calamity. Peace is indeed possible, and to establish it is the serious duty and responsibility of all men. More recently, the agreement between the United States of America and the Soviet Union to eliminate intermediate and short-range missiles, which was signed in Washington, has raised much hope throughout the world. This treaty, signed on 8 December 1987, and ratified just recently, is indeed an all-time important milestone on the road toward solid international security, which must be supported by the United Nations. The signing of this document was welcomed as a factor to positively sway multilateral or bilateral negotiations.

Mr President: I feel honored to appear before this forum to speak of peace on behalf of a country that lives in peace. When we came to power on the strength of the Paraguayan people's will expressed through the ballot box, we put an end to nearly 4 decades of anarchy, backwardness, coups d'etat, and barracks uprisings with their aftermath of death and injury, which our nation had been engulfed. For more than 30 years, our country has experienced solid political stability, order, and freedom, with the branches of the state functioning normally, with periodic and clean elections to choose the nation's president, senators and deputies of Congress, and members of municipal and electoral boards. My country is ruled by a Constitution that was drawn up in a democratic National Constituent Assembly in which the National Republican Association or Colorado Party, the Radical Liberal Party, the Liberal Party, and the Revolutionary Febrerista Party participated.

In Paraguay, we have real democracy, with freedom and security, that is, democracy without anarchy and terrorism. We are firm defenders of human rights, and thus we care for the lives of all people who thus can enjoy political and social order in a continuous process of improvement. Peace reigns in Paraguayan homes, on the streets, in the cities, in the countryside, and there are guarantees of all the rights consecrated in the nation's Constitution. My country does not have political prisoners. It enjoys press freedom, and its institutions include representatives of the majority, with participation of the minority.

Democracy, I must say, cannot be defended by a weak government. Therefore a government that is not strong cannot ensure democracy. We have a government of firmness in Paraguay so that the state of law can be enforced. Thus we have established a state of peace which we will not allow to be disturbed by anyone or anything. [passage omitted]

Mr President: Peace is dear to the Paraguayan people because they consider it essential for displaying their creative capacity, because they had to engage in two

painful international wars, and because they had to undergo a long period of anarchy marked by frequent bloodshed, great sacrifice, and hardship.

I participated as a soldier in the defense of my fatherland in the cruel Chaco War between 1932 and 1935, and I have witnessed and gone through the sufferings caused by war. Through that experience of blood and fire I was able to better appraise the courage and endurance of my people, and to further strengthen my certainty about the countless benefits that peace brings.

Throughout its glorious history, Paraguay has been a peace-loving nation. Today, it has turned its heroism into the spiritual driving force with which it is building its future, based on social, economic, and cultural development.

The use of force must be proscribed and the sovereignty of nations must be effectively respected for the sake of international understanding.

The international community wants disarmament, but disarmament calls for the creation of an atmosphere of growing confidence.

Each state has the unquestionable right to provide for its own security, but this goal should provide no grounds for an unbridled arms race involving the risks that have awakened mankind's justified concern.

As Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar has dramatically said, there are no chances of achieving victory — no matter what kind of victory — in a nuclear war. The end of civilization could hardly be a victory for anyone.

In view of the clamor for disarmament, we declare that we hope that the efforts to find realistic, imaginative, and prudent points of agreement will continue. The path should not be that of tragic irrationality and collective suicide. The universal conscience must emerge as the winner, because it is not just the security or the development of nations that is at stake, but rather the very survival of mankind. With its deep devotion to peace and with faith in the future of mankind, my fatherland will continue to firmly support all the efforts, and all the understakings of the United Nations for disarmament and for arms limitation, especially in the nuclear area, for the sake of international peace and security and the socioeconomic progress of nations.

Mr President: On behalf of the Paraguayan Government and people, I express my best wishes for success for this third General Assembly period of sessions dedicated to disarmament. I would like to say that use of force against law, and provocations prompted by hegemonic goals are incompatible with freedom and with the aspiration of security built upon sound foundations.

To move forward along the path of disarmament, the watchwords should be to abandon aggressiveness and to nurture a peaceful and creative spirit in the passionate search for a more just and human world. Thank you, very much.

Officials Attack Demonstrators in New York

PY0806161488 Asuncion HOY in Spanish
8 Jun 88 p 8

[Text] A lawsuit has been filed in the United States against Alejandro Caceres Almada and other members of President Stroessner's entourage for their attack on demonstrators protesting the presence of Stroessner in the country.

Members of the official delegation accompanying President Stroessner in the United States were involved in a row with demonstrators in New York on Monday, 6 June. The incident took place after some 40 Paraguayan demonstrators gathered in front of the Waldorf Astoria Hotel to repudiate the presence of President Stroessner at the United Nations. During the incident, Alejandro Caceres Almada headed a violent row with the demonstrators.

According to the report we received, one of the demonstrators, a Paraguayan called Francisco Britez, was hit by Caceres Almada. Almada was accompanied by Rodolfo Shaerer Peralta, Miguel Fernandez, Notary Juan Jose Benitez Rickman, and Carlos Arza Maldonado.

The demonstrators immediately filed a formal complaint at the police district office. The police who arrived at the site of the incident 5 minutes later "did not arrest the aggressors, identified as members of the delegation accompaning General Stroessner, because they thought the aggressors had diplomatic immunity," according to a report to Radio Caritas by Candido Arbo, member of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party committee in New York.

According to the report from New York. at first the demonstrators argued with Caceres Almada, Shaerer Peralta, Fernandez, Benitez Rickman, and Arza Maldonado about the message regarding the non-use of force "that President Stroessner himself brought to New York when rejecting the arms race." The report further says that "demonstrators were protesting peacefully against the presence of General Stroessner at the United Nations as a sign of resistance to his dictatorial regime and did not have any intention of resorting to fistfights or anything of the like."

The report says that the final result of the row was the great dissemination of the incident by the local press, and the lawsuit filed by Francisco Britez before a U.S. court.

Radio Caritas special correspondent asked Miguel Fernandez why they crossed the street and confronted the demonstrators. According to his report the deputy had answered: "It was just to upset them a bit."

Government Denies Incident

PY0906025488 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 8 Jun 88 p 8

[Text] The Presidential Under Secretariat for Information and Culture this morning issued a communique citing remarks by the head of this office, Juan Jose Benitez Rickmann, regarding events that took place in New York. Among other things, Benitez Rickmann says: "The only demonstration I have seen is one staged by 500 Paraguayan residents, who gathered outside the Waldorf Astoria hotel to convey their support, joy, happiness, admiration, and respect for our president. Any other version—of which I am not aware—of this demonstration would be altogether malicious and irresponsible."

Benitez Rickmann adds: "Confrontations exist only in the distorted minds of those people who, instead of going to their fatherland to promote their views with votes as any democratic citizen would do, are disseminating divisive reports to smear our country." He adds that President Stroessner's visit to the United States has been "a complete success." He requests that "all tendentious, slanderous reports" be rejected, and notes that calm prevails within the Paraguayan delegation.

Benitez Rickmann also regrets the fact that "the local media published the report without previously checking with their correspondents who came with us, who are accredited to the Presidency, and who could have given them an accurate version of the event."

The Under Secretariat for Information and Culture urges all local media organizations to give Benitez Rickmann's remarks "as much coverage as they gave the report that was intentionally disseminated from New York."

Incidents Called 'Insignificant'

PY0806162088 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 8 Jun 88 p 6

[By special correspondent Ezequiel Colman]

[Excerpts] Orlando, Florida—President Alfredo Stroessner arrived in Orlando today (7 June) on a private visit to the city. The president came from New York after addressing the UN General Assembly on disarmament. Stroessner and his entourage will remain in Orlando until Thursday 9 June. At 1000 9 June they will depart for Paraguay. [passage omitted]

The report of alleged incidents could be called insignificant. They were magnified by parties interested in smearing the visit of the president to the United States. There were some minor demonstrations, but no aggression or commotion. Nothing like that has happened so far.

The other rumor stating that President Stroessner would undergo medical treatment while in Orlando is totally false since the president attended all programmed events looking quite healthy. The same thing can be said about his visits to recreation areas. The press and entourage were always present and we can testify as to his good health.

Stroessner Meets Sarney, Others

PY0706133888 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 7 Jun 88 p 9

[By Ezequiel Colman]

[Text] New York—Yesterday afternoon Paraguayan President Alfredo Stroessner conducted several activities in New York. He met with heads of state and international personalities.

General Stroessner held important meetings with Brazilian President Jose Sarney, U.S. businessmen David Rockefeller, IDB President Enrique Iglesias, the president of Afghanistan, and other personalities.

Stroessner met with Sarney for about 30 minutes to evaluate mutual relations. They reviewed current projects and emphasized the excellent Paraguayn-Brazilian relations.

After the meeting the two presidents talked to Paraguayan journalists about their views on the issues discussed. Regarding Paraguayan-Brazilian relations President Sarney said that "they are special and very close relations among friends and involve great cooperation."

Asked about the joint projects Sarney said: "I was just mentioning to President Stroessner that the Itaipu Dam is going very well because the ninth turbine is about to be inaugurated. We are also working on the railroad project for carrying agricultural products. We emphasized that Brazil is a great friend of Paraguay and that Paraguay is a great friend of Brazil."

President Stroessner said: "It was a pleasure to be with President Sarney once again. He has always given me his friendship and the Brazilian friendship the same way we give him our friendship. It was a very fruitful meeting."

Stroessner added: "I am not going to go into the issues we discussed, but I would like to emphasize the very close cooperation Brazil gives us."

Police Arrest, Expel Lebanese Shi'ites

PY0806210588 Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish 8 Jun 88 p 17

[Text] Approximately 50 Lebanese Shi'ites entered our country in April. Six of them were ordered to leave the country last week, four are being held at the Investigative Police Department, and the remaining members of the group are free, but without their passports, the Committee of Churches reported yesterday.

Francisco de Vargas, an attorney who coordinated activities of the Committee of Churches, said Paraguayan officials did not give any explanation for the expulsion or for the detention of the Shi'ites. He also described as "groundless" the allegation that these Shi'ites are in fact Palestinians and that they had entered the country to attack Pope John Paul II.

De Vargas reported that the following people were ordered to leave the country: Nassim Hassib Nasreddin, Yasser Mahmond Barbour, Ali Abel Hasan, Faisal Youssef Abdollah, and Mohamed Sbeite. He said he does not know the name of the sixth person who was ordered to leave the country or the names of those who are under custody because these individuals are being held incommunicado.

A report form Ciudad President Stroessner, where the Shi'ites were arrested upon entering Paraguay, says that they were carrying false visas they had obtained in their country.

Other reports claim that the Lebanese citizens were arrested because of their religion. In fact, they left their country, which is now being ruled by a Christian government, because they are Shi'ites. These reports also add that the Lebanese ambassador and consul in Buenos Aires may have requested their expulsion from Paraguay.

Peru

MRTA Said Behind Attack on U.S. Envoy's House

PY0906221688 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 1800 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Excerpt] A terrorist attack was perpetrated this morning against the residence of the U.S. ambassador. The residence was attacked this morning by a terrorist commando that fired two mortar shells that hit the roof of the residence. Ambassador Alexander Watson was inside the building during the attack, but fortunately no injuries or material damage was reported.

[Begin reporter relay] The residence of the U.S. ambassador was the target of an attack allegedly perpetrated by members of the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement [MRTA] who fired bazooka [as heard] shells into the building. One of the shells detonated as it hit the roof, near the mast of the U.S. flag.

These terrorists attacks deserve to be repudiated because they stain Peru's image abroad.

Shortly after the attack, members of the Civil Guard arrived at the residence to guard the area. [passage omitted] [end relay]

Shining Path Members Kill 7 in Apurimac

PY0906150088 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0223 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] Lima, 8 Jun (EFE)—It was reported here today that alleged members of the Shining Path terrorist group have murdered five civilian officials and two peasant leaders in localities in the Peruvian Apurimac Department .

Two mayors, one deputy mayor, and two justices of the peace were killed in different towns of Antabamba Province, while in Atancama village the terrorists killed two peasant leaders.

Radio Programas del Peru's correspondent in Mollebamba today reported that terrorists have killed the mayor and deputy mayor of Mollebamba, the mayor of Savaino, and the justices of the peace of Calcauso and Cilco villages.

The sources added that approximately 50 Shining Path guerrillas carried out the terrorist attack in Atacama, where they tortured and killed the peasant leaders.

Apurimac Department, bordering on Ayacucho Department, is located in the so-called emergency zone, due to the activities of terrorist groups in the area during the last 7 years. Abancay, the capital of Apurimac Department, is almost 1,000 km southeast of Lima.

University Students Arrested; Rector Comments

PY0906223088 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 1800 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Excerpts] Some 50 San Marcos University students were arrested at noon today by members of the Civil Guard during a protest inside the university campus. The students were preparing to start an unauthorized demonstration along the streets of Lima.

The police have disclosed that among the arrested students was a man wearing a woman's wig and carrying a Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement [MRTA] banner and subversive propaganda. This student is considered an alleged subversive. [passage omitted]

[Begin recording] [Reporter Patricia Bonher] This is a direct report from Congress where we are talking with the rector of the Greater University of San Marcos, Jorge Campos Rey de Castro. Good afternoon rector.

[Rey de Castro] Good afternoon.

Bonher] Are the serious incidents reported at the university this morning justified?

[Rey de Castro] Unfortunately, the incidents were caused by the fact that we were not authorized to hold the demonstration the university council agreed to hold today. The purpose of the rally was to come, in an orderly manner, to Congress to lodge the university's

protest over the police acts of repression. Last Tuesday, 31 May, one of our students was killed by police, and two others sustained serious bullet wounds. There is no reason to repress students actions with bullets. The police have already managed to control similar actions in other occasions by only using their truncheons and tear-gas bombs. But this time they resorted to their guns and this is the result.

The following day, the students staged a protest and the police promptly, without the necessary authorization, raided the university campus and arrested students who were in class or peacefully having lunch. The police took the arrested students to DIRECOTE [Antiterrorist Directorate]. Ninty-five percent of those students have already been released because there was no evidence against them. The remaining two students will be released in the next few hours. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Reports on Teachers Strike Contradictory

PY1006024288 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 1800 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Excerpts] We are now in contact with Senator Jose Ahumada Vasquez, secretary general of the Education Ministry.

[Unidentified reporter] Good afternoon Mr Vasquez, could you tell us what percentage of teachers worked today?

[Vasquez] Good afternoon. This general indefinite strike has ceased to be such and has turned into a 24-hour stoppage observed by some 30 percent of the teachers. Most of those who did not go to work yesterday have done so today. The same goes for the students.

Having realized that the strike called for by the leadership of the SUTEP [Sole Trade Union of Education Workers] has not been successful, the teachers have returned to work today in large numbers. [passage omitted]

We will now talk to Professor Olmedo Auriz, secretary general of the SUTEP.

[Unidentified reporter] Good afternoon, Professor Olmedo Auriz?

[Olmedo] Good afternoon, what can I do for you?

[Reporter] We would like to know how you assess the stoppage organized by the SUTEP?

[Olmedo] Up to 95 percent of the teachers at a national level are observing the measure. This is a fact, you will even read about it in the media.

[Reporter] Ninety-five percent of the teachers have observed the stoppage?

[Olmedo] That is right. [passage omitted]